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Mr. James Yannotta  
Assistant Director of Water Resources  
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power  
111 N. Hope Street, Room 1460  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**RE: Support for Groundwater Replenishment Project**

Dear Mr. Yannotta

The Sierra Club Angeles Chapter expresses its support for the concept and goals of the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power's Groundwater Replenishment Program. We are committed to working together to resolve our mutual concerns, as follows:

- Ensure the LA River habitat is not harmed by the resulting reduced water flow.
- Maximize recycled water supply to meet or exceed State recycled water goals.
- Ensure that the management of brine is a top concern when evaluating siting options.
- Aggressively pursue the cleanup of the San Fernando Basin as it is critical to the viability of the project.
- Aggressively secure standards on maximum emerging contaminant levels in the San Fernando Valley basin and any other contaminated basins.
- Make construction and clean-up jobs available to local workforces

We appreciate that DWP's Water Recycling Regulatory Group staff reached out to us early for feedback. We expect that the department will make a good-faith effort to incorporate stakeholder feedback in the development of the program and the Recycled Water Master Plan. In particular, we would like to ensure that the program and plan addresses our environmental justice concerns. Lastly, we hope that our organizations and other CBOs will be used as a resource to help gather public support for this important project.

We support the Groundwater Replenishment Project because we know we must drastically decrease our reliance on imported water. In addition to resulting in a more reliable regional water supply, the project will provide the following added benefits:



- Produce the safest, highest quality water available using about 50% less energy than it takes to import water into Los Angeles from Northern California and the Colorado River.
- Lessen the strain on California's Bay Delta and Owens Valley.

Many of these goals are outlined in the City's *Securing L.A.'s Water Supply* plan. We applaud the department for its effort to carry-out the City's plan with the assistance of local CBOs. We look forward to continuing to work together to implement and institutionalize these plans on a policy level.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Silverman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ron Silverman  
Senior Chapter Director  
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter  
3435 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 320  
Los Angeles CA 90010