

# **Appendix B: California Department of Public Health Concept Approval Letter**

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RON CHAPMAN, MD, MPH  
Director & State Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor

September 7, 2012

Roger S. Bailey  
Director, Public Utilities Department  
City of San Diego  
9192 Topaz Way, MS 901  
San Diego, CA 92123

Marsi Steirer  
Deputy Water Department Director  
City of San Diego  
600 B Street, 13th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Bailey and Ms. Steirer:

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO SAN VICENTE RESERVOIR AUGMENTATION CONCEPT**

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has reviewed the March 22, 2012, City of San Diego Water Purification Demonstration Project, Proposal to Augment San Vicente Reservoir with Purified Recycled Water (Report) and the City of San Diego San Vicente Reservoir Augmentation Concept Summary. The purpose of this letter is to respond to the City's request for CDPH review and approval of the project concept.

The City of San Diego's (City) proposed project for surface water augmentation (SWA) using advance treated recycled water would be the first planned project of its type in California. To obtain CDPH approval for an actual SWA project, the City must provide an adequate basis for CDPH to make a finding that the SWA project "poses no significant threat to public health", as required in the Health & Safety Code (H&S Code), Section 116551. CDPH has authority to condition a permit (H&S Code Section 116540) "as it deems necessary to assure a reliable and adequate supply of water at all times that is pure, wholesome, potable, and does not endanger the health of consumers." Nothing in this letter is intended to waive CDPH's authority.

The final design, engineering report, operations plan, contingency plan, response plan, and water quality monitoring plan for this project have not yet been developed; all of these are required prior to being issued a permit.

Based on CDPH's review of the City's March 22, 2012, submittal, CDPH has concluded that the project, as conceived, when properly designed, constructed, and operated, will not compromise the quality of the water derived from the San Vicente Reservoir. Therefore, CDPH approves the San Vicente Reservoir Augmentation Concept.

In order for CDPH to permit the project and make the finding that the project poses no significant threat to public health, the City will need to provide the additional information outlined above, including, but not limited to, the final design, engineering report, operations plan, contingency plan, response plan, and water quality monitoring plan.

CDPH staff will continue to be available to your staff for technical discussions and to answer questions on CDPH's requirements for SWA projects. If you have any questions on these comments or would like to discuss them, please contact me at (916) 449-5577.

Sincerely,



Leah Godsey Walker, P.E., Chief  
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cc:

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