



CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

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MEMORANDUM

TO: California Ocean Protection Council

FROM: Drew Bohan, Executive Policy Officer

DATE: October 25, 2007

RE: Resolution to have the OPC join the SCCWRP JPA

ATTACHMENTS: [Exhibit 1: Resolution of the California Ocean Protection Council: Becoming a Member of Southern California Coastal Water Research Project](#)

[Exhibit 2: Sixth Amended Joint Powers Agreement Confirming the Creation of an Agency known as Southern California Coastal Water Research Project Authority](#)

[Exhibit 3: SCCWRP Resolution #07-07 adding party to the Joint Powers Authority](#)

BACKGROUND:

The Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) is a research institute focusing on the coastal ecosystems of Southern California, from watersheds to the ocean. SCCWRP was formed in 1969 as a joint powers agency (JPA). The common mission of SCCWRP member agencies is to contribute to the scientific understanding of linkages between human activities, natural events, and the health of the Southern California coastal environment; communicate this understanding to decision makers and other stakeholders; and recommend strategies for protecting the coastal environment for this and future generations.

SCCWRP's strategic goals include:

- To develop, participate in, and coordinate programs to understand ecological systems in the coastal waters and to document relationships between these systems and human activities;
- To effectively communicate research findings and recommendations, through a variety of media, to decision makers and other stakeholders;
- To serve as a catalyst in forming partnerships and alliances that further these goals; and
- To provide an information management system to archive, retrieve, analyze, and display SCCWRP data in order to achieve the above goals and enhance our understanding of the Southern California Bight.

The OPC would benefit from being a party to the JPA because one of OPC's goals is to improve ocean water quality to protect human health and the plants and animals that live in the marine environment. The

California Ocean Protection Act also directs the OPC to use some of the same tools used by SCCWRP. The OPC is charged with the responsibility to better communicate scientific findings to policy makers and to partner with other entities both governmental and non-governmental to better coordinate efforts to protect our ocean and coastal resources.

The attached resolution is necessary to acknowledge the OPC's assent to the terms of the Amended JPA and to agree to become a party to the SCCWRP Commission that oversees the research activities conducted by SCCWRP. The OPC will have the same authority as other signatories to the agreement with the ability to vote on matters that come before the commission. However, the members of SCCWRP have agreed to allow OPC participation without requiring any financial contribution by the OPC. Upon approval of the attached resolution, the OPC will become a member of SCCWRP.