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September 27, 2021

Karla Nemeth Director California Department of Water Resources P.O. Box 942836-0001 Sacramento, CA 94236 Joe Yun
Executive Officer
California Water
Commission
P.O. Box 942836-0001
Sacramento, CA 94236

Subject: Regional San's Commitment to Fund the Non-public Benefit

**Cost Shares of the Harvest Water Program** 

Delivered via electronic mail to:

<u>Joseph.Yun@water.ca.gov</u> and <u>Lea.Garrison@water.ca.gov</u> (on behalf of Karla Nemeth)

Dear Ms. Nemeth and Mr. Yun:

Thank you for your continued support for Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District's (Regional San's) Harvest Water Program. In preparation for our upcoming Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) feasibility hearing anticipated in October 2021, this letter confirms Regional San's commitment to fund the non-public benefit cost shares of the project, pursuant to Water Code section 79757(a)(3).

The Harvest Water Program is an exceptional opportunity in Southern Sacramento County to proactively restore and manage groundwater, while improving stream flows in the lower Cosumnes River, enhancing groundwater-dependent riparian habitats and wetlands, sustaining prime agricultural lands, and improving regional water supply reliability through conjunctive use.

In July 2018, Harvest Water successfully received a Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determination (MCED) of \$280.5 million under the WSIP administered through the California Water Commission (Commission). At its January 20, 2021 meeting, the Commission approved a 2.5% inflation adjustment to the MCEDs of all seven eligible WSIP projects. The current MCED for the Harvest Water Program is \$287,512,500.

As documented in the Commission's Determination Recommendations, Harvest Water is a conjunctive use project and is eligible for more than 50 percent of the project's total capital cost. The current capital cost for the project is estimated at approximately \$445 million. In addition to WSIP funding, Harvest Water was awarded \$5.9 million through the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act administered through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Ms. Nemeth and Mr. Yun Harvest Water Letter of Commitment September 27, 2021 Page 2

Regional San will continue to pursue additional WSIP funding if it becomes available, as well as other state and federal funding opportunities to offset the remaining capital costs. The remaining balance of capital costs and costs ineligible for grant funding will be financed by Regional San through cash reserves, as well as recycled water and wastewater treatment rate revenues. Harvest Water capital costs are included in Regional San's annual budget, capital financing plan, and its long term financial plan.

Regional San is committed to the success of this exciting Program, and looks forward to continued coordination with the Commission. If you have any questions about Harvest Water, please contact Terrie Mitchell, the Harvest Water Administrative Program Manager, at (916) 876-6092 or at mitchellt@sacsewer.com.

Sincerely,

Christoph Dobson District Engineer

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cc: Amy Young – Water Storage Investment Program Manager, California Water Commission

Terrie Mitchell - Harvest Water Administrative Program Manager, Regional San