



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the General Manager

April 22, 2019

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
2368 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: SUPPORT– H.R. 1764: To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to permitting terms, and for other purposes (Garamendi)

Dear Representative Garamendi:

I am writing to express Metropolitan Water District's support for your legislation to modernize the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit terms under the Clean Water Act.

H.R. 1764, once enacted, would provide the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, along with state counterpart agencies, a clearly-defined new authority to issue an expanded permit term of up to ten years to reward those public agencies that have demonstrated compliance with existing permit conditions.

It is our hope that your legislation will advance with bi-partisan support during the 116th Congress. Metropolitan is currently considering the development of a regional water recycling plant that may involve the joint participation of the Los Angeles Sanitation Districts. An improved federal regulatory and permitting process is likely to encourage this and other local water supply development to increase resiliency in the region and to help reduce reliance on imported water.

The authority to extend NPDES permit terms up to a fixed period of ten years would better reflect today's clean water infrastructure reality as recently illustrated before the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment's hearing into water infrastructure needs.

Please let us know if Metropolitan can be a resource to you and your staff as H.R.1764 moves forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Kightlinger".

Jeff Kightlinger
General Manager