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**ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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January 14, 2019

President Brett R. Barbre  
Municipal Water District of Orange County  
18700 Ward Street  
Fountain Valley CA 92708

***SUBJECT: Municipal Water District of Orange County Letter Dated January 8, 2019 –  
Consideration of Groundwater Storage Agreement with Moulton Niguel Water  
District***

Dear Mr. Barbre:

Thank you for your letter dated January 8, 2019 regarding the proposed pilot storage agreement with the Moulton Niguel Water District (MNWD). The agreement calls for studying issues to assist in the potential development of a pilot storage agreement with MNWD. The Orange County Water District (OCWD; District) Board will consider the agreement at its meeting on January 16, 2019.

As your letter indicates the MWDOC staff has been working on this issue for several years and has acquired significant knowledge on the subject matter. If the agreement is approved by the OCWD Board, the work being accomplished will be coordinated with and will be designed to complement the work MWDOC has and is currently completing. Our staff will keep the MWDOC staff informed of our progress and will share draft and final documents for your review. The District will also be working closely with the Groundwater Producers group.

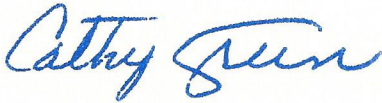
OCWD concurs with your description of the 2006 South Orange County (SOC) Emergency Services Agreement. Using the OCWD groundwater basin to assist SOC water agencies during emergency events was controversial at the time. Our agencies worked together to obtain the necessary institutional approvals. This agreement has been used successfully several times by SOC water agencies to meet their water supply needs.

Concepts to store water in the OCWD groundwater basin for SOC water agencies have been developed numerous times over the past few decades. OCWD is always willing to meet with and to listen to new ideas. Section 2.1 of the OCWD District Act allows for such arrangements under certain conditions. SOC storage programs need to be designed in a "win-win" fashion to benefit OCWD and SOC. OCWD has met with various SOC water agencies over the years.

The MNWD pilot storage agreement if approved and if successful could lead to a larger storage program for other SOC water agencies. We currently envision the MNWD pilot program to be in the area of 5,000 acre-feet. A larger SOC program could ultimately be in the range of 15,000 to 20,000 acre-feet depending upon what agencies desired to participate. This larger program would only be considered after the 66,000 acre-foot Metropolitan Water District Conjunctive Use Program agreement expires in 2028.

District staff assures me they will coordinate the work contemplated in the MNWD agreement with MWDOC staff. If MWDOC has any comments on the scopes of work provided in the Request for Proposals attached to the MWWD agreement, we would appreciate receiving them within the next week.

Sincerely,



Cathy Green  
Chair, OCWD Water Issues Committee

cc: OCWD Board of Directors  
OCWD Groundwater Producers  
MWDOC Board of Directors