June \_\_\_ , 2021

The Honorable Toni Atkins The Honorable Anthony Rendon

Senate President Pro Tempore Speaker of the Assembly

State Capitol, Room 205 State Capitol, Room 219

Sacramento, CA 95814 Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Nancy Skinner The Honorable Phil Ting Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

State Capitol Room 5019 State Capitol, Room, 2026

Sacramento, CA 95814 Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Water Resilience Drought Funding Package -- $750 Million Recycled Water**

Dear Pro Tem Atkins, Speaker Rendon, Chair Skinner and Chair Ting,

Insert agency name, strongly urges the inclusion of $750 million for water recycling grants to be administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) into the Water Resilience Drought Funding Package included in the FY 2021/2022 state budget. Please watch [55-second video](https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flinkprotect.cudasvc.com%2Furl%3Fa%3Dhttps%253a%252f%252fwatereuse.org%252fcivicrm%253fciviwp%253dCiviCRM%2526q%253dcivicrm%252fmailing%252furl%2526u%253d20766%2526qid%253d14014453%26c%3DE%2C1%2C1s8aCAY8Bqev12bIHqriCi-ybx0DEXA3sKpM_ra15vLlB9YKAdcA2EkosZKLxm7LczpoYu6WnJGc8oEbmcNSBsc7bKEMUC76Cnhb7XtoNSIMyqyyoGLOwTXTnA%2C%2C%26typo%3D1&data=04%7C01%7Cmikem%40my1water.org%7Cfb63a9c00cc844ab48fd08d929def894%7C78063e5d718a47e0bc99f1d215cba3f7%7C0%7C0%7C637586859901065845%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=WwZYX3V%2BZjhynZ40r4xlnwQ3Kl994iYKBXm8kI9UYN4%3D&reserved=0" \o "https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flinkprotect.cudasvc.com%2Furl%3Fa%3Dhttps%253a%252f%252fwatereuse.org%252fcivicrm%253fciviwp%253dCiviCRM%2526q%253dcivicrm%252fmailing%252furl%2526u%253d20766%2526qid%253d14014453%26c%3DE%2C1%2C1s8aCAY8Bqev12bIHqriCi-ybx0DEXA3sKpM_ra15vLlB9YKAdcA2EkosZKLxm7LczpoYu6WnJGc8oEbmcNSBsc7bKEMUC76Cnhb7XtoNSIMyqyyoGLOwTXTnA%2C%2C%26typo%3D1&data=04%7C01%7Cmikem%40my1water.org%7Cfb63a9c00cc844ab48fd08d929def894%7C78063e5d718a47e0bc99f1d215cba3f7%7C0%7C0%7C637586859901065845%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=WwZYX3V%2BZjhynZ40r4xlnwQ3Kl994iYKBXm8kI9UYN4%3D&reserved=0).  **It is critical that California make a major investment in water recycling to mitigate the impacts of drought and create climate resilient sustainable water supplies.**

There are ample shovel ready projects and longer-term recycled water projects that could be completed in 2026 to warrant this level of investment. For example,

* Over $7 billion in projects are on the SWRCB funding program list (As identified in the SWRCB [Intended Use Plan](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/services/funding/SRF.html))
* Over $13 billion in planned projects throughout California. (WRCA survey or projects)

The Administration’s Water Resilience Portfolio highlights the importance of recycled water, noting that “recycled water is a sustainable, nearly drought-proof supply when used efficiently, and the total volume of water California recycles today could triple in the next decade.” Very recently, draft regulations for Direct Potable Reuse were released, which will likely be adopted in 2023. With a regulatory framework in place, and needed funding, many planned reuse projects can move forward and greatly enhance the water supply of the state.

With a significant statewide investment, planned recycled water projects are expected to transform our state’s water supply in the coming years. Benefits of just some of these projects include:

* (include specific examples in your area or agency)

We respectfully request the inclusion of $750 million for recycled water the Water Resilience Drought Funding Package. The waiting list of recycled water projects, many shovel-ready, that can put Californians to work and help shield Californians from the effect of drought and climate change is the perfect investment opportunity for a drought package. Thank you in advance for your consideration and please contact (Agency Contact) if you have any questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

cc: Senator Bob Wieckowski, Chair, Senate Sub 2

Senator Jim Nielsen, Senate Budget Committee Vice Chair

Assemblymember Vince Fong, Vice Chair, Assembly Budget Committee

Assemblymember Richard Bloom, Chair, Assembly Sub 3

Members, Senate & Assembly Budget Committee

Kip Lipper, Chief Policy Advisor

Alf Brandt, Speaker’s Policy Staff

Joanne Roy, Senate Budget Committee Consultant

Emilye Reeb, Senate Republican Budget Committee Consultant

Shy Forbes, Assembly Budget Committee Consultant

Kristin Kolpicke, Republican Budget Committee Consultant