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California Environmental Protection Agency

NEWS RELEASE

State Water Resources Control Board

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For Immediate Release
September 26, 2000
00-07

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State Water Board Delivers Grant to Stockton for Upgrades to Wastewater Treatment Facility

STOCKTON – With a \$9.68 million grant from the State Water Resources Control Board, the City of Stockton will have funds necessary to upgrade its Regional Wastewater Control Facility, thereby protecting California's water resources.

State Water Resources Control Board Acting Chairman Art Baggett will participate in a ceremony Wednesday, September 27, 2000, marking the final approval of a grant, which will increase wastewater treatment capacity and increase treatment levels to meet more stringent discharge requirements, and reduce wastewater treatment costs by eliminating stormwater inflows into the sanitary sewer system.

The City of Stockton will receive the money for its Staged Expansion Program Project from Proposition 13 (The Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Bond Act), which was approved by California voters in March. The State Water Board administers distribution of some of the proposition's funds. State Assemblyman Mike Machado, who sponsored the legislation that became Proposition 13, will be in attendance. Stockton is within Machado's Assembly district. Additional grants totaling \$21 million are available for the Cities of Manteca, Tracy and Orange Cove.

"It's rewarding to see funds from Proposition 13 helping to keep our water resources clean and safe," said Baggett. "This project will improve water quality in the San Joaquin River by enabling the City of Stockton to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant both in terms of capacity and treatment level."

The ceremony at the Regional Wastewater Control Facility in Stockton will be attended by Baggett, Machado, Stockton Vice Mayor Gloria Nomura, City Manager Dwayne Milnes, Director of Municipal Utilities Morris Allen, City Council members Ann Johnson, Richard Nickerson, Victor Mow, Larry Ruhstaller, and Gary Giovanetti, as well as other civic and business leaders.

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