

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION

RESOLUTION NO. R3-2007-0095

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION
FOR THE
SOUTH COAST BEACH COMMUNITIES SEPTIC TO SEWER PROJECT
PROPONENTS

WHEREAS, the Central Coast Water Board's mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources. The Central Coast Water Board achieves its mission by relying on traditional permitting, enforcement tools, as well as exemplary efforts of citizens and groups that benefit water quality. Accordingly, the Central Coast Water Board recognizes and appreciates the efforts of the South Coast Communities Septic to Sewer Project proponents; and

WHEREAS, the proponents coordinated stakeholder efforts with the affected communities of **Rincon Point, Sandyland Cove, Sand Point Road, and Padaro Lane**, Santa Barbara County in order to introduce the septic to sewer concept (a total of 175 homes); and

WHEREAS, in March 1999, Heal the Ocean, along with Surfers of the Rincon Clean Water Classic, Clean Up Rincon Effluent group, Surfrider Foundation, Santa Barbara County's Project Clean Water, and the Rincon Homeowners Association provided approximately \$9,000 for a sewer engineering study; and

WHEREAS, Heal the Ocean in collaboration with the Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services department initiated the *October 1999 Rincon DNA Study* to further investigate the contribution of septic systems to the adjacent Rincon Lagoon, Rincon Creek, and Ocean, at a cost of \$36,000; and

WHEREAS, Carpinteria Sanitary District and Heal the Ocean successfully lobbied to secure state grant funding for the South Coast Communities Septic to Sewer Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) process; and

WHEREAS, Carpinteria Sanitary District certified the South Coast Communities Septic to Sewer Project EIR in March 2004; and

WHEREAS, Proponents continued to move forward with the project despite legal challenges to the South Coast Communities Septic to Sewer Project EIR, which were rejected by the Santa Barbara County Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, Heal the Ocean established a \$48,000 Supplemental EIR fund to conduct additional planning work for the Rincon Point area before the final project was approved by Carpinteria Sanitary District; and

WHEREAS, Carpinteria Sanitary District approved the South Coast Communities Septic to Sewer project on September 19, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Carpinteria Sanitary District submitted an application to secure Clean Beach Initiative (Proposition 84) monies for project funding, which was unanimously approved by the State Water Board on September 4, 2007; and

WHEREAS, overwhelming support from various agencies and groups facilitated approvals throughout the decision making process, including Assessment District approval by a wide margin ; therefore, allowing the Carpinteria Sanitary District to proceed with a project that will protect coastal resources including surface and groundwater.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, hereby expresses its utmost appreciation for the tremendous efforts of the South Coast Communities Septic to Sewer Project proponents who despite challenges at many steps along the way successfully facilitated the design, funding, and approval of the sanitary sewer system.

I, Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, on December 7, 2007.

Executive Officer