

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Bill Johnson)  
MEETING DATE: February 14, 2018

ITEM: **7B**

SUBJECT: **Letter of Support for State Water Resources Control Board Resolution to Allow Supplemental Environmental Projects to Fund Regional Monitoring Program Projects – Proposed Letter of Support**

CHRONOLOGY: This is the first time the Board has considered this item.

DISCUSSION: This letter would offer the Regional Water Board's support for a State Water Board resolution allowing supplemental environmental projects (SEPs) to fund Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) projects. In December 2017, the State Water Board adopted a revised *Policy on Supplemental Environmental Projects* that requires State Water Board authorization if the Regional Water Board wishes to direct some SEP funds to an account used for RMP projects.

We have drafted a proposed resolution for State Water Board consideration that would authorize the Regional Water Board to direct some SEP funds to an RMP account used for valuable, but unfunded, water quality studies that dischargers would not otherwise be legally required to perform. The proposed resolution would also authorize the Regional Water Board to release dischargers from SEP liability upon receipt of payment to the RMP.

The RMP has a well-earned track-record for conducting sound science in response to thoroughly vetted management questions. Despite stable, core discharger funding, however, many important projects remain unfunded. Any SEP funds allocated for the RMP will continue to be put to good use in accordance with a well-established and transparent process.

APPENDIX: Proposed Letter of Support