



October 7, 2022

Donne Brownsey

Chair

California Coastal Commission

455 Market Street, Suite 300

San Francisco, CA 94105

Donne.Brownsey@coastal.ca.gov

RE: Letter of Support for Permitting of Doheny Desalination Project in Dana Point

Dear Chair Brownsey:

On behalf of The South Orange County Economic Coalition, we are pleased to convey and share with your Commission our support for the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project.

The importance of this project to the long-term sustainability and water supply reliability of this part of the county cannot be overstated and this permit will go a long way toward project implementation.

The serious implications of drought restrictions on our local communities, especially when combined with the region's overwhelming reliance on imported water, justifiably inspire SCWD and its neighboring districts to be innovative in their ongoing mission to achieve a diverse and reliable portfolio of water projects and management strategies. The Project has the potential to be a local and regional asset, reducing south Orange County's reliance on imported water and ensuring supply reliability in the event of a natural disaster or other major emergency.

We are in support of this project and its mission to encourage businesses in the region to thrive. Additionally, we are encouraged and optimistic in light of the fact that grant funding has already been secured and that they will seek future funding, if necessary, in order to offset financial impact on residents. For these reasons, the South Orange County Economic Coalition is in full alignment with the project.

It is a pleasure to convey our support of the California Coastal Commission's consideration and approval of the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project. Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing commitment to and efforts on behalf of our residents, businesses, and the region's resources.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Victoria Hernandez', with a stylized, cursive script.

Victoria Hernandez

Executive Director, South Orange County Economic Coalition