**DATE**

**Matthew D. Reichert**

**Grants Management Specialist**

**U.S. Bureau of Reclamation**

**P.O. Box 25007**

**Denver Federal Center**

**Denver, CO 80225-0007**

SUBJECT: Support for Valley Water’s Title XVI Grant Application to Fund Technical Studies to Advance Reverse Osmosis Concentrate Management Alternatives

Dear Matthew D. Reichert,

On behalf of ORGANIZATION/AGENCY **NAME***,* I am writing to express support for the Santa Clara Valley Water District’s (Valley Water) grant application under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program to fund technical studies for the treatment of reverse osmosis concentrate (ROC) for metals and nutrients.

Reverse osmosis, which is the critical means of filtering pollutants in order to produce potable recycled water, yields a concentrate (ROC) that contains high levels of salts, including nutrients and priority pollutant metals. Depending upon discharge requirements, it may be necessary to provide innovative treatment options for ROC to satisfy National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirements.

As California water and wastewater agencies plan to increase local water supply through water reuse, there will be an increased need for ROC management options for discharge to enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons. These coastal areas are sensitive to priority pollutant metals and nutrient loading—new treatment alternatives for ROC and municipal wastewater could significantly improve coastal water quality.

Valley Water’s ROC management project has produced three research plans to test the most promising treatment alternatives for determining whether ROC treatment for nutrients and metals removal would be feasible and effective. These plans include:

1. **Floating Wetlands Treatment of ROC at the Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center (SVAWPC);**
2. **ROC Treatment in Oro Loma Sanitary District’s (OLSD) Horizontal Levee Wastewater Treatment Pilot in San Lorenzo, California; and**
3. **Capacitive Coagulation (CapCoTM) Removal of Free and Chelated Metals in ROC at SVAWPC.**

Results from these pilot projects will aid in decision-making for ROC management at future advanced purification facilities in the region and throughout California. New treatment mechanisms will offer wastewater and water reuse facilities greater flexibility in meeting continuously evolving discharge limits for nutrients and priority pollutants.

We strongly support Valley Water’s application for this Title XVI funding. If you have any questions, please contact me at **NUMBER**.

Sincerely,

**NAME**

**TITLE**

**ORGANIZATION/AGENCY**