



February 24, 2026

US EPA Region 9 (WTR-2-2)

Attn: Luisa Valiela

FY 2022 San Francisco Bay Geographic Program Office Proposal Review Committee

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

Subject: CASA Support for BACWA's "Clean Water Together" Proposal

Dear San Francisco Bay Geographic Program Office Proposal Reviewer,

On behalf of CASA, I am writing to express our support of the proposal titled "Clean Water Together – A Coalition Proposal for Regional Nutrient Solutions" submitted by the Bay Area Clean Water Association (BACWA), with partners at the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Central Contra Costa Sanitation District, East Bay Dischargers Authority, Dublin San Ramon Services District, the City of South San Francisco, Mt. View Sanitary District, Sanitation Agency of Southern Marin, City of Burlingame, in response to the EPA's Notice of Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-R9-SFBay-26-0. CASA represents more than 150 public agencies and municipalities in California that engage in wastewater collection, treatment, recycling, and resource recovery. Our vision is to advance sound public policy and shape programs that empower the clean water community to drive sustainability, protect public health, and advance circular water solutions.

As a region and a state, we are at a critical juncture in protecting the San Francisco Bay, and this collaborative effort represents a viable and timely path toward sustainable nutrient management. Through on-the-ground implementation, targeted research, regional collaboration, and the development of a nutrient trading program, this work will enable publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) to leverage site-specific opportunities while contributing to broader, system-wide nutrient and contaminant management strategies. We believe this collaboration will generate valuable, transferable insights beyond the immediate project areas and inform practical, scalable approaches to wastewater nutrient management across the Bay Area, the state, and across the nation. We respectfully request your support for this important initiative.

We are particularly supportive of the diverse approaches outlined in the proposal, which include process Intensification and piloting advanced technologies, nature-based solutions, and market-based solutions.

Luisa Valiela  
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CASA is a long-standing partner with BACWA through the Clean Water Summit Partners as well as several joint initiatives that benefit clean water agencies across the state. We recognize BACWA's long-standing history of successful regional coordination and fiscal responsibility. Their collaboration with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP) ensures robust administrative oversight and effective technology transfer across the region. We are confident that this coalition will deliver high-impact results that serve as a national model for watershed-scale nutrient management.

CASA supports this collaborative effort to protect the environment while practicing economic efficiency with the co-benefits of drought and flooding resilience. We urge the EPA to fund this proposal and support the regional collaboration necessary for a sustainable San Francisco Bay. If you have any questions, please contact me at [alink@casaweb.org](mailto:alink@casaweb.org) or (916) 446-0388.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam D. Link". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adam" being the most prominent.

Adam D. Link, Executive Director  
California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA)