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Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster
Mission Springs Water District
Mojave Water Agency
Orange County Water District
Raymond Basin Management Board
San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority
Sonoma Water
Water Replenishment District of So CA

Institutional/Educational Membership

Groundwater Resources Assn of CA
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Legislative Advocate

Rosanna Carvacho
Clear Advocacy

May 2, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
1020 N Street, Room 502
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee 2
1020 N Street, Room 502
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Budget Request – Groundwater Recharge Funding

Dear Chairs Skinner and Wieckowski:

On behalf of the California Groundwater Coalition (CGC), I write to respectfully request that a total of \$250 million be included in the 2022-23 Budget Act for groundwater recharge.

CGC was formed at the urging of California state and local officials who believed that increased efforts were needed to educate and inform policy makers and the public about California groundwater resources. CGC members include public and private groundwater management entities located throughout California and consist of experts with technical, legal, and professional groundwater and related expertise.

The Governor's January Budget, within the drought package, included only \$30 million for groundwater recharge grants to support the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

CGC supports the \$30 million allocation and requests an additional \$220 million for a total of \$250 million for projects that support groundwater banking, conjunctive use, recharge, or other groundwater projects that improve water resilience. Groundwater recharge is of critical importance as we try to bring our groundwater basins back into a state of sustainability under SGMA.

Data from CGC members show that member agencies have had to spend around \$30 million on one groundwater recharge project alone. This shows how little \$30 million is for a statewide allocation. CGC believes that a total of \$250 million is a reasonable request to allow for more than one agency to access state funding.

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The Honorable Bob Wieckowski
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For these reasons, CGC respectfully requests that you include \$250 million for groundwater recharge grants in the 2022-23 Budget Act. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ann DuBay". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ann" and last name "DuBay" clearly distinguishable.

Ann DuBay
President, California Groundwater Coalition