



California Water Quality Monitoring Council



Matthew Rodriguez
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Karen Larsen & Stephani Spaar, Co-Chairs
Mailing Address: c/o Jon Marshack, Monitoring Council Executive Director
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Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor



John Laird
Secretary for
Natural Resources

April 5, 2017

Monitoring Council Members

Karen Larsen
Environmental Protection
Agency

Stephani Spaar
Natural Resources Agency

Robert Brownwood
Division of Drinking Water

Armand Ruby
Stormwater

Phil Markle
Publicly Owned
Treatment Works

Parry Klassen
Agriculture

Beth Christman
Citizen Monitoring

Vacancy
Public

Stephen Weisberg
Scientific Community

Sarge Green
Water Supply

Monitoring Council Staff

Jon Marshack
Executive Director

Kristopher Jones
Assistant Director

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Calif. Natural Resources Agency
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WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SENATE BILL (SB) 1070 (KEHOE, 2006): REPLACEMENT MEMBER RECOMMENDATION

Dear Secretaries Rodriguez and Laird:

On November 26, 2007, the Secretaries for Environmental Protection and Natural Resources signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing the California Water Quality Monitoring Council (Council) as required by SB 1070 (Kehoe, 2006). The initial list of Council members was approved in May 2018 and the Council had its first meeting in June of that year. Pursuant to the legislation, the Council developed and on December 28, 2010 submitted to the Agency secretaries a recommended *Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy for California* to guide the Council's activities into the future.

Sara Aminzadeh, Council Member representing the public, stepped down in 2016. Ms. Aminzadeh holds the position of Executive Director of the California Coastkeeper Alliance, which had sponsored SB 1070. An announcement for this Council vacancy was widely circulated in November and fifteen candidates applied. Based on criteria outlined in the Council's Governance document, candidates were vetted with a number of environmental organizations, and the field of candidates was narrowed to three. Interviews were conducted earlier this month, and I have selected Ray Hiemstra, Associate Director of the Orange County Coastkeeper to recommend to you as Ms. Aminzadeh's replacement on the Council. In addition to the Orange County Coastkeeper, Mr. Hiemstra has been endorsed by the San Francisco Baykeeper, San Diego Coastkeeper, Wishtoyo Foundation's Water Initiative and Wishtoyo's Ventura Coastkeeper Program. His formal appointment to the Council as Public representative will provide continuity and broad based representation from the environmental community. A letter outlining Ray Hiemstra's qualifications is enclosed.

To ensure that the Council continues to move forward to implement the requirements of SB 1070, I would appreciate your decision regarding the proposed replacement Council Member as outlined above by May 5, 2017. I will assume that you concur with this change if I have not received a response by this date. If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at (916) 341-5423 or Karen.Larsen@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Larsen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karen" being more prominent than the last name "Larsen".

Karen Larsen, Deputy Director
Division of Water Quality
State Water Resources Control Board
Monitoring Council Co-Chair Representing CalEPA

Enclosure

cc: Members of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council
Ray Hiemstra, Orange County Coastkeeper

March 27, 2017



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Re: Expanded background for Raymond Hiemstra

Dear Dr. Marshack,

I am excited to have been nominated for an appointment to the public seat of the California Water Monitoring Council (Council). Below is a summary of my qualifications in relation to the nine criteria detailed in the vacancy announcement:

(1) Be actively involved in an organization routinely doing water quality monitoring

I am the Associate Director of Orange County Coastkeeper where I have focused my efforts on water monitoring and water policy for the last seventeen years. I have been actively involved in water monitoring during my entire career at Coastkeeper.

(2) Council representation has a balance of geographical regions of the state

I am based out of Orange County thus I can effectively represent the southern portion of the state on the Council, which has only one member from southern California.

(3) Have the time available to commit to the council

I have the time and expertise to actively participate in Council duties including reviewing documents, attending meetings in Sacramento and Costa Mesa, and working with other Council members to complete necessary tasks.

(4) Have demonstrated ability to work successfully with diverse stakeholder groups

I have demonstrated my ability to work successfully with diverse stakeholder groups through my participation in regional workgroups focused on bacteria, Selenium and toxics monitoring and criteria development along with stormwater BMP implementation. I was also a member of the state Marine Life Protection Act South Coast Stakeholder Group.

(5) Have expertise in the category nominated for (in this case, representing the Public)

I have experience in representing the public and I currently hold the public seat on the Newport Bay Watershed Management Committee and am the alternate NGO representative on the Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Safety Committee.

(6) Be respected by their constituencies

During my career with Coastkeeper I have developed an extensive knowledge of water quality issues and environmental advocacy. I am often sought out to participate in water monitoring and policy development activities by my peers. I have served as chair of the City of Huntington Beach Environmental Board and on the Executive Committee of the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club.

(7) Be an effective communicator

I am known for being an effective communicator and often give presentations to community groups and participate in panel discussions at conferences. This will facilitate my ability to communicate the work of the Council to the public.

(8) Have in-depth experience in water quality monitoring in CA

I have seventeen years of experience in water quality monitoring in California. This includes running 319h and Proposition 13 funded Citizen Water Monitoring projects at sites throughout the Santa Ana River Watershed, a Proposition 13 funded water and sediment monitoring project to support the remediation of the Rhine Channel in Newport Beach, and projects to develop data on metals concentrations in Newport Bay marinas and storm drains. I also ran a Regional Water Board SEP funded project to document storm water BMP effectiveness at four Scrap Metal Recycling facilities. I continue to conduct water monitoring as part of Orange County Coastkeeper's industrial storm water enforcement program.

(9) Be able to meet deadlines

My work requires me to meet a wide variety of deadlines for grant submissions, monitoring, data analysis and reporting. I take personal pride in meeting the deadlines I commit to.

I feel that my years of experience make me a good candidate for appointment to the Council. I am looking forward beginning my work on the Council as soon as I am appointed.

Thank you,



Ray Hiemstra
Associate Director
Orange County Coastkeeper