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LONG BEACH WATER DEPARTMENT
A Class 1 Water Utility

KEVIN L. WATTIER, General Manager

March 30, 2006

Samuel W. Bodman
Secretary of Energy
United States Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Docket Number EE-RM-PET-100

Subject: Support for Petition to Exempt From Preemption California's Water Efficiency Standards for Residential Clothes Washers

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach Board of Water Commissioners, I strongly urge you to approve the **Petition to Exempt from Preemption California's Water Efficiency Standards for Residential Clothes Washers**.

California, in particularly southern California, is one of the fastest growing areas of the United States and supports one of our country's largest and, therefore, most important economies. Critical to the long-term well being of the people and economy of this region are reliable supplies of both energy and water; yet meeting these reliability imperatives in the future will become more difficult.

These two essential utilities are linked in interesting and important ways. Electrical power required to pump, treat, and distribute water exceeds the requirement of any other industry in the state. Conserving water reduces this substantial energy requirement. Many water conserving devices also conserve power at their point of use by, for example, conserving the energy that would otherwise be needed to heat wasteful amounts of hot water.

The steps proposed by the California Energy Commission to mandate the conservation of energy and water in clothes washing machines are the kind of action the state of California must take in order to meet the future energy and water demands of its people and economy.

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For these reasons, the Board of Water Commissioners of the City of Long Beach urges you to allow the state of California to take the actions it deems necessary to ensure its long-term water and energy reliability and hope you will approve the Petition to **Exempt From Preemption California's Water Efficiency Standards for Residential Clothes Washers**.

Sincerely,

Stephen T. Conley
President of the Board of Water Commissioners

cc: Ms. Brenda Edwards-Jones
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Board of Water Commissioners