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January 9, 2026

Mr. Samuel Assefa, Director
Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 10th Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Assefa:

In a letter dated December 15, 2025, you informed the Joint Legislative Budget Committee that Governor Newsom had determined that the Pure Water Southern California Project in Los Angeles County is eligible for the alternative California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process authorized by Chapter 60 of 2023 (SB 149, Caballero).

Senate Bill 149 provides a streamlined CEQA review process for energy infrastructure, semiconductor and microelectronics, transportation-related, and water-related projects that meet certain requirements. For example, water-related projects must meet various labor and greenhouse gas emission-related requirements and must avoid or minimize impacts to disadvantaged communities.

Based on the information you have provided, and a subsequent review by the Legislative Analyst's Office, I concur with the Governor's determination that the project meets the SB 149 criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21189.80 et seq.

Sincerely,

Scott Wiener

Scott Wiener
Chair

cc: Members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee