

REPORT

DATE: June 16, 2022
TO: Governing Board Members & Alternates
FROM: Marisa Creter, Executive Director
RE: **AB 2163 (RUBIO) – SAN GABRIEL BASIN WATER QUALITY
AUTHORITY ACT**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution 22-36 in support of AB 2163 (Rubio).

BACKGROUND

The San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority (WQA) was established by the State Legislature (SB 1679) on February 11, 1993, to manage and coordinate contamination cleanup with local, state, and federal agencies and to develop, finance, and implement groundwater treatment programs in the San Gabriel Basin. The San Gabriel Basin provides 90% of the local drinking water and is the primary source of drinking water for more than 1 million people in Alhambra, Irwindale, La Puente, Rosemead, Azusa, Baldwin Park, City of Industry, El Monte, South El Monte, West Covina and other areas of the San Gabriel Valley. Cleanup so far has cost about \$500 million, which came from public funds and the parties responsible for the contamination.

This bill would extend the sunset date of the existing law that established the WQA from July 1, 2030, to July 1, 2050. This bill would thereby permit the Authority to carry out its various duties under the act until 2050.

DISCUSSION

The WQA was established to tackle the public health and safety water quality crisis gripping the San Gabriel Valley (home of the nation's largest Superfund site), by working to secure funding for treatment. The WQA has played an important role in improving groundwater water quality in the San Gabriel Basin. Specifically, of the total contaminants removed from the San Gabriel Basin, more than half of these have resulted from WQA-sponsored projects. There is still much work to be done, and extending the sunset date of the WQA from 2030 to 2050 would allow the WQA to continue its vital role in the remediation of harmful contaminants from the San Gabriel Basin.

Proponents of the Bill include:

- California Groundwater Association
- California Water Association
- City of Baldwin Park
- City of Covina
- City of El Monte
- City of Glendora
- City of Industry

REPORT

- City of La Puente
- City of South El Monte
- San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
- San Gabriel Valley Water Association
- Three Valleys Municipal Water District
- Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

As of April 29, 2022, there were no opponents listed on file with the State Assembly.

The bill was passed unanimously in the Assembly and is currently being reviewed in Senate Committee on Appropriations.

At the Water Policy Committee/TAC meeting on May 10, 2022, the committee unanimously approved recommending the Governing Board support AB 2163 (Rubio).

Prepared by:



Brianne Logasa
Management Analyst

Approved by:



Marisa Creter
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

[Attachment A – AB 2163 \(Rubio\) Text](#)

[Attachment B – Resolution 22-36 Supporting AB 2163 \(Rubio\)](#)