

# Anthony M. Saracino

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## Water Consulting

May 8, 2015

Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Letter of Resignation

Dear Governor Brown,

I am writing to resign from the California Water Commission. The reason for my resignation is to avoid potential future conflicts between my vocation as a water consultant and my role on the Commission. With recent advances in California water policy, I am intrigued by the possibility of helping my former client base of state and federal agencies, water districts, municipalities and environmental organizations achieve objectives related to sustainable water management. The conflicts rules dictate that I could not take on this work and continue to serve on the Commission.

While my original plan had been to stay through the end of my term in January 2016, I believe the Commission will benefit from the appointment of someone able to serve through the entire process for developing groundwater and water storage funding regulations.

As a scientist who has worked in California water resource management since the 1980s, my primary objective on the Commission was to bring scientific transparency and integrity to all decisions made by the Commission, especially those that would allocate \$2.7 billion of the public's money from Proposition 1 to water storage projects. Unfortunately, as the Commission gets closer to making decisions on Prop. 1 funding, some special interests are beginning to weigh in on specific storage projects with irrational claims and allegations that are clearly designed to weaken scientific integrity and suppress transparent dialogue.

I encourage your Administration to continue to support the Commission in its efforts to bring rational discourse and robust analyses to all water storage projects that have the potential to provide public benefits as defined in statute, and to identify relevant provisions of existing law that are not entirely clear so that they can be addressed and incorporated into Commission decision-making. It is critically important that narrow special interests not be allowed to dictate California water policy and the investment of public funds by attempting to suppress open dialogue or the elimination of specific projects based on unofficial interpretations of state law.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the State of California in this important role. I wish the Commission the very best in its numerous challenges ahead.

Sincerely,



Anthony Saracino