

CARMEL J. ANGELO
Chief Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board



**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Sustainable Communities Planning Grant and Incentive Program
Department of Conservation
Division of Land Resource Protection
801 K Street, MS Floor 18-01
Sacramento, CA 95814

To Whom It May Concern:

The County of Mendocino strongly supports and is pleased to participate as a partner in the North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan's (NCIRWMP) Sustainable Communities Planning Grant application. Mendocino County believes that a collaborative partnership focused on developing a shared, regional approach to the management of our energy and water resources will best create balanced solutions that achieve greater efficiencies, enhance public services and resolve resource problems that transcend political and jurisdictional boundaries.

The ongoing economic and environmental viability of North Coast ecosystems and communities depends on retaining healthy watersheds, forests and agricultural resources through sustainable management. Unique strengths of this proposal include: its geographic scope, established governance structure, equitable representation of the region's economically disadvantaged communities, rigorous scientific and technical review, and a commitment to transparency and public participation. The NCIRWMP's Sustainable Communities Planning Grant proposal is the result and outgrowth of an ambitious joint venture that includes 7 counties and more than 70 Tribal and local governments, non-governmental organizations and interested stakeholders. The proposal builds upon a recognized model for review, evaluation, open dialogue, on-the-ground implementation, and accountability necessary for the Region's collective success.

This grant application proposes to develop innovative, integrated, sustainable and regional strategies that will work to transform and create long-term prosperity for the North Coast's communities. Through regional energy assessments, mapping and analysis; the development of a Regional Energy Independence and Climate Change Mitigation Strategy; identification of innovative financing for energy conservation, renewable energy, water and wastewater infrastructure; and the development of voluntary policies and planning modules that will assist the North Coast's rural communities in meeting the goals of AB 32 and SB 375.

The County of Mendocino strongly supports the NCIRWMP's energy independence efforts which will be integral to assisting our local communities in meeting local, regional and statewide climate, energy and greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and objectives. We appreciate your consideration of the NCIRWMP's application and encourage your approval.

Sincerely,

John McCowen, Chair
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

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