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April 26, 2023

The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
 California State Assembly
 1021 O Street, Suite 6320
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 234 – Orange County Sanitation District SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Bauer-Kahan:

On behalf of Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) I write in support of your Assembly Bill 234, which seeks to ensure that additional microplastics and synthetic polymer microparticles are kept out of our environment. OC San provides wastewater collection, treatment, and recycling for approximately 2.6 million people in central and northwest Orange County, CA. OC San’s primary mission is to protect public health and the environment through its services.

In recent years, California has led the nation in source control legislation aimed at preventing additional plastics from entering our natural environment. OC San has been a nationwide leader in advocating for source control measures that protect the environment as well as the public infrastructure that treats wastewater. This important bill will address a well-known issue of microplastics entering our environment through the wastewater stream in spite of existing source control measures.

We are also very encouraged about the use of science-based screening and criteria to determine specific compliance with the provisions and limitations of the bill. The specificity as outlined in the bill will provide a clear direction to the industry on the limitations of synthetic polymer microparticles primarily found in cosmetics and cleaning products.

We appreciate your support on this critical source control bill and look forward to working with you in the future. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Cabral, Administration Manager at (714) 593-7581 or via mail at JCabral@ocsan.gov.

Sincerely,

Chad P. Wanke
 Board Chairman

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