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11/24/20

Dr. Clarissa Anderson Executive Director Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System Scripps Institution of Oceanography 9500 Gilman Drive, 0206 La Jolla, CA 92093-0214

Dear Dr. Anderson:

On behalf of Heal the Bay, I enthusiastically endorse the valuable data and services provided by the Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System (SCCOOS) at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego.

Heal the Bay and the Heal the Bay Aquarium actively rely on ocean water analysis to support our mission in creating healthy waters for both the surrounding human population and the displayed local marine life, respectively. Through a collaboration with SCCOOS and the proposed monitoring upgrades, we would be able to provide even more comprehensive data to support in these goals. The SCOOS scientific data even further supports our core missions in advocating and educating about critical environmental issues such as ocean acidification and climate change.

As a science-based decision support system, SCCOOS collaborates with local, state and federal agencies, resource managers, industry, policy makers, educators, scientists and the general public to provide data, models and products that advance our understanding of the current and future state of our coastal and global ocean. SCCOOS focuses on coastal observations and product development to provide the information necessary to address issues on marine operations, coastal hazards, climate variability and change, and ecosystems, fisheries, and water quality.

Sustained funding for SCCOOS will be crucial to the maintenance of the program's ocean observing network and to the continuity of the important data products and services that these observations enable. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Laura Rink

Laura Rink Associate Director of Aquarium Operations