DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

EDMUND G. BROWN JR. • GOVERNOR

915 L STREET ■ SACRAMENTO CA ■ 95814-3706 ■ WWW.DOF.CA.GOV

November 11, 2014

Ms. Sylvia Miledi, Accountant
City of Needles
817 Third Street
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Ms. Miledi:

Subject: Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code (HSC) section 34177 (m), the City of Needles Successor Agency (Agency) submitted a Recognized Obligation Payment Schedule (ROPS 14-15B) to the California Department of Finance (Finance) on October 1, 2014 for the period of January 1 through June 30, 2015. Finance has completed its review of your ROPS 14-15B, which may have included obtaining clarification for various items.

Based on our review, we are approving all of the items listed on your ROPS 14-15B at this time. However, although the administrative costs claimed are within the fiscal year administrative cap pursuant to HSC section 34171 (b), Finance notes the oversight board has approved an amount that appears excessive, given the number and nature of the obligations listed on the ROPS. HSC section 34179 (i) requires the oversight board to exercise a fiduciary duty to the taxing entities. Therefore, Finance encourages the oversight board to apply adequate oversight when evaluating the administrative resources required to successfully wind-down the Agency.

Pursuant to HSC section 34186 (a), successor agencies were required to report on the ROPS 14-15B form the estimated obligations and actual payments (prior period adjustments) associated with the January through June 2014 period. The amount of Redevelopment Property Tax Trust Fund (RPTTF) approved in the table below reflects the prior period adjustment self-reported by the Agency. HSC section 34186 (a) also specifies prior period adjustments self-reported by successor agencies are subject to review by the county auditor-controller (CAC) and the State Controller. Proposed CAC adjustments were not received in time for inclusion in this letter; therefore, the amount of RPTTF approved in the table below only reflects the prior period adjustment self-reported by the Agency.

In addition, Finance noted on ROPS 13-14B Prior Period Adjustment (PPA) worksheet, the Agency's expenditure exceeded Finance's authorization for the following item:

- Reserves Balances in the amount of $60,867 for Item No. 2.

Per HSC section 34177 (a) (3), only those payments listed on ROPS may be made by the Agency from the funds specified on the ROPS. However, these items were determined to be enforceable obligations for the ROPS 14-15B period. Therefore, Finance is increasing the

Agency's authorization for the ROPS 14-15B period to ensure that authorization is consistent with expenditures for the approved enforceable obligations. As these Reserves Balances were previously expended, the increase in authorization should not result in increased expenditures for the current ROPS period, but should merely allow the Agency to reconcile actual expenditures to the authorization.

HSC sections 34177 (a) (4) and 34173 (h) provide mechanisms when Agency payments must exceed the amounts authorized by Finance. Please ensure the proper expenditure authority is received from your Oversight Board and Finance prior to making payments on enforceable obligations.

The Agency's maximum approved RPTTF distribution for the reporting period is $475,425 as summarized in the Approved RPTTF Distribution Table below:

Approved RPTTF Distribution For the period of January through June 2015		
Total RPTTF requested for non-administrative obligations		350,425
Total RPTTF requested for administrative obligations		125,000
Total RPTTF requested for obligations on ROPS	**$**	**475,425**
Total RPTTF authorized for non-administrative obligations		350,425
Total RPTTF authorized for administrative obligations		125,000
Total RPTTF authorized for obligations	**$**	**475,425**
ROPS 13-14B prior period adjustment		0
Total RPTTF approved for distribution	**$**	**475,425**

Please refer to the ROPS 14-15B schedule that was used to calculate the approved RPTTF amount:

http://www.dof.ca.gov/redevelopment/ROPS

Absent a Meet and Confer, this is Finance's final determination related to the enforceable obligations reported on your ROPS for January 1 through June 30, 2015. This determination only applies to items where funding was requested for the six-month period. Finance's determination is effective for this time period only and should not be conclusively relied upon for future periods. All items listed on a future ROPS are subject to a subsequent review and may be denied even if it was or was not denied on this ROPS or a preceding ROPS. The only exception is for those items that have received a Final and Conclusive determination from Finance pursuant to HSC section 34177.5 (i). Finance's review of items that have received a Final and Conclusive determination is limited to confirming the scheduled payments as required by the obligation.

The amount available from the RPTTF is the same as the amount of property tax increment that was available prior to the enactment of ABx1 26 and AB 1484. This amount is not and never was an unlimited funding source. Therefore, as a practical matter, the ability to fund the items on the ROPS with property tax is limited to the amount of funding available to the agency in the RPTTF.

Pursuant to HSC section 34177 (a) (3), only those payments listed on an approved ROPS may be made by the successor agency from the funds specified in the ROPS. However, if for whatever reason the Agency needs to make payments for approved obligations from another

funding source, HSC section 34177 (a) (4) requires the Agency to first obtain oversight board approval.

To the extent proceeds from bonds issued after December 31, 2010 exist and are not encumbered by an enforceable obligation pursuant to HSC section 34171 (d), HSC section 34191.4 (c) (2) (B) requires these proceeds be used to defease the bonds or to purchase those same outstanding bonds on the open market for cancellation.

Please direct inquiries to Nichelle Thomas, Supervisor or Michael Barr, Lead Analyst at (916) 445-1546.

Sincerely,

JUSTYN HOWARD
Acting Program Budget Manager

cc: Ms. Bonnie Luttrell, Accountant, City of Needles
Ms. Linda Santillano, Property Tax Manager, San Bernardino County
California State Controller's Office