

ALTA PLATING / THE METALFINISHING GROUP

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Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region

11020 Sun Center Dr., Suite #200

Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Attn: Kathleen Cole Harder

Subject: SRCSD Permit Mandates

I am writing this letter as a concerned citizen and business owner here in Sacramento. I have lived in Sacramento or the surrounding area since my family moved here in 1959. My father was an independent businessman virtually all of his working life and I am the same today. Our company currently has 45 people employed. Down from over 100 people in the past years. I graduated from UC Davis with a Soil and Water Science degree in 1977 and immediately starting working for a small metal finishing company here in Sacramento.

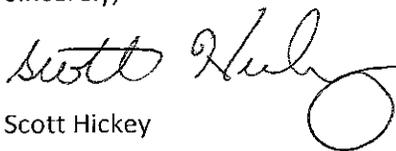
One of the integral parts of our business is the supply of water and the cost thereof. The burden coming at us with this these new requirements that are on the table will be a major blow to our ability to stay competitive with surrounding competition both in the state and out. As the breadth of our customer base is located out of this area, including out of state. Our business is unique in that 98% of what we process here is for manufacturing. We service companies that make things. This includes, industries such as aerospace , medical , high-tech , construction , food , sporting goods , prescription drug, and defense just to name a few.

As I am sure you are aware, especially in California, all these industries are diminishing. As cost beyond their control are forcing them to downsize, move to another area that will support them with less burden, move out of the state, move out of the country, or just go out of business.

Business will always seek an environment that will support it.

I hope that you will consider all the above as you formulate your decision on the need to go forward with the new requirements that you are entertaining putting on our SRCSD.

Sincerely,



Scott Hickey

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