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Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

Karl E. Longley, ScD, P.E., Chair

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16 November 2009

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## **MODIFICATION TO 2010 MONITORING SCHEDULE - SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AND DELTA WATER QUALITY COALITION**

On 30 October 2009, the San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) submitted a letter to notify the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) of its intent to modify the 2010 monitoring schedule for French Camp Slough at Airport Way. The Coalition plans to suspend analysis of azinphos methyl, dieldrin, methidathion, and nickel during its 2010 Core sampling cycle, but will continue analysis in January 2011, once the Assessment Monitoring cycle resumes. In addition, the Coalition also intends to discontinue Group A pesticides analysis from its monitoring schedule and will be rotating from assessment site South Webb Tract to Drain at Woodbridge in January 2010, as per the Coalition's approved Monitoring and Reporting Program Plan (MRPP).

The Coalition has been conducting analysis of azinphos methyl, dieldrin, and methidathion, (Parameters of Concern) at Site subwatershed French Camp Slough at Airport Way in accordance with the Monitoring and Reporting Program Order No. R5-2008-0005 (Order). The Order maintains that Parameters of Concern, which are to be included in Core Monitoring, may be selected by the Central Valley Water Board Executive Officer from toxicity, pesticides, or metals that result in an exceedance or detection during Assessment Monitoring. Nickel was mistakenly included as one of these parameters. However, no exceedances of nickel have been observed at the French Camp Slough site.

The last two years of monitoring data indicate that azinphos methyl, dieldrin, methidathion, and nickel should no longer be considered parameters of concern at French Camp Slough at Airport Way for the following reasons:

- Azinphos methyl – No detections have been observed for sample years 2007-present. The associated test species *Ceriodaphnia* is currently under a Management Plan.
- Dieldrin – Dieldrin is currently sampled and managed under the Coalition's Management Plan.
- Methidathion – There have been two years of sampling with no detections. In addition, the associated test species *Ceriodaphnia* is currently under a Management Plan.

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- Nickel – No exceedances have been observed.

Based on data showing the absence of exceedances for these parameters, I approve the suspension of monitoring for azinphos methyl, methidathion, and nickel at French Camp Slough at Airport Way until Assessment monitoring resumes in 2011. Monitoring of dieldrin is now part of the Coalition's Management Plan and therefore no longer falls under the Parameter of Concern category.

Regarding the Group A pesticides, the Coalition's approved MRPP states, *"Therefore, if the Coalition does not detect any Group A pesticides during 2008/2009 monitoring, the Coalition will have demonstrated that these pesticides are not negatively affecting water quality and will discontinue monitoring for Group A pesticides in 2010."* Given that the 2009 monitoring year is not complete, I conditionally approve the removal of Group A pesticides from the monitoring schedule if the 2009 monitoring data does not result in detections of Group A pesticides. Group A pesticide monitoring must resume if detections are reported during the remainder of 2009.

The Central Valley Water Board acknowledges that in accordance with the Coalition's MRPP, it will be rotating Assessment Site South Webb Tract to Drain at Woodbridge in January 2010.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Jimmerson at 916-464-4859, or by email at [cjimmerson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:cjimmerson@waterboards.ca.gov).

*Original signed by*

Pamela C. Creedon  
Executive Officer

cc: Joe Karkoski