



MEMBER AGENCIES

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Rohnert Park
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Ukiah
- County of Sonoma
- Mendocino County Water Agency
- Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

DAVE RICHARDSON
Executive Director

300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 833-2553

September 10, 2007

Subject: Resolution 2007-73

Dear: Robert Klamt

The Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) is an association of eleven cities, counties and special districts in the Russian River Watershed that have come together to coordinate regional programs for clean water, fisheries restoration and watershed enhancement. RRWA works to promote cooperation and implementation of projects that protect watershed resources, restore fisheries and improve water quality at reduced cost to ratepayers and taxpayers.

The RRWA has a direct stake in protecting beneficial water use in the Russian River Watershed. The intention of Resolution 2007-73, to clarify the Board's intent to remove provisions that unintentionally impede the use of reclaimed water for irrigation, will help avoid an interruption in the development of water recycling projects by RRWA member agencies. Adoption of the resolution will encourage water reclamation and conserve water resources in the Russian River Watershed. For these reasons, RRWA supports Resolution 2007-73.

The City of Santa Rosa has developed the Urban Water Reuse Project which will provide a billion gallons of reclaimed water every year. Current low threat discharge limitations present significant hurdles to the implementation of this project and other water recycling projects. The RRWA and its member agencies believe that by amending the North Coast Basin Plan and modifying the City of Santa Rosa's Storm Water Permit, the Board will make a positive step toward removing these hurdles and furthering the City's water reuse efforts.

The RRWA and its member agencies encourage the Board to adopt a Basin Plan Amendment (BPA) which provides reasonable objectives for low threat discharges during the dry season. On June 26, 2007, RRWA, submitted a letter to the North Coast RWQCB encouraging a Low Threat BPA which could rectify a long-standing prohibition low threat discharges such as construction dewatering, well pump testing, and water distribution system flushing. These activities do not adversely affect water quality when conducted properly. Likewise,

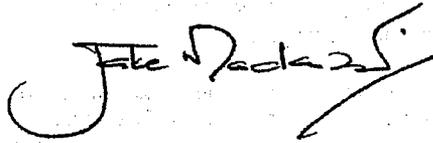
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incidental runoff from properly managed irrigation sites, regardless of water source, does not adversely affect water quality.

Resolution 2007-073 affirms the State's commitment to encourage and facilitate continued development of water recycling projects while the BPA and stormwater permit modifications are pending. Even with Resolution 2007-073, construction of regionally important water recycling projects await the outcome of the BPA, and the RRWA and its members request that the State act expeditiously.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at 707-584-1195 or Dave Richardson at 925-627-4100.

Sincerely,



Jake Mackenzie, Chair
RRWA Board of Directors

cc: RRWA Board of Directors