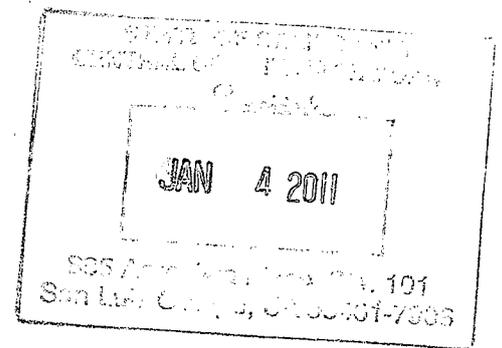


January 2, 2011

Jeffery S. Young  
Chairman of the Board  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Central Coast Region  
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401



Dear Sir:

We have operated a 13 acre vineyard near Paso Robles for 30 years. We use drip irrigation and irrigate an average of 30 hours per year. On wet years, such as this year, we may not irrigate at all. We do not fertilize. Our pesticide use consists of one spraying per year for weeds using Goal or Round-up which are unrestricted materials. Some years we may spray one time for leafhoppers using Provado which is also unrestricted. That is the total extent of our pesticide use.

Because of our topography we have no erosion problems. We are not located near a stream. In 30 years we have never been a waste discharger nor is there any possibility that there could be a potential for waste discharge from our operation. I am sure that there are many other farming operations that are similar to ours.

CCRWQCB has never provided any reasons or evidence to justify its policy toward our type of operation. This lack of accountability is unacceptable. As CCRWQCB is proposing a new AG Waiver it would be an excellent time to exclude those of us who have no potential to discharge waste. We feel that imposing requirements upon us or continuing to take money from us amounts to unfair treatment. We feel very strongly that Governmental Organizations have an obligation to treat citizens fairly and that CCRWQCB needs to make fair treatment of people as important as its other goals.

Your latest proposals that require monitoring for our type of operation will achieve absolutely nothing of benefit. They will most certainly cause waste and damage to the economy. It is sad to see that once again you have failed to listen to reasonable proposals from the Agricultural Community.

Your latest proposals reflect both the incompetence of the Board and its Staff and a marked ill will toward Growers such as myself.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. D. Caparone', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

M. D. Caparone

CC Abel Maldonado  
Sam Blakeslee