



State Water Resources Control Board

MAY 22 2012

Professor Frank A. Ward
Department of Agricultural Economics and
Agricultural Business
Campus Box 30003
Department 3196
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM 88003

Dear Professor Ward:

PEER REVIEW OF DRAFT AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF LOWER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER FLOW ALTERNATIVES

Thank you for agreeing to provide a professional peer review of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) Draft Agricultural Economic Effects of Lower San Joaquin River Flow Alternatives (Agricultural Economics Report). The purpose of this letter is to initiate the economic peer review process.

Enclosed with this letter are the following key documents:

- 1) The March 22, 2012 request to Dr. Gerald Bowes, Manager of the Cal/EPA's Scientific Peer Review Program, for external reviewers including five Attachments. You received a copy of the request during the University of California, Berkeley reviewer candidate solicitation process.

Additionally, the March 22, 2012 request asked reviewers to provide comments within 20 days of receipt of the request. Please note that the peer review comment period has been increased to 30 days.

- 2) The January 7, 2009 Supplement to the Cal/EPA Peer Review Guidelines.

In part, this provides guidance to ensure confidentiality through the peer review process; and it addresses possible requests for discussion by outside parties after the review has been submitted.

- 3) References for the Agricultural Economics Report on CD.

CHARLES R. HOPPIN, CHAIRMAN | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Your review should follow the guidance provided in Attachment 2 of the attached March 22, 2012 request letter. Please address the economic topics listed in Attachment 2 in the order given, as expertise allows.

The State Water Board requests that the review be completed within 30 days of the receipt of these documents. If you will have any difficulty in meeting this schedule, please let me know immediately.

Any communication or clarification questions regarding this request should be directed to me, at pfernandez@waterboards.ca.gov. Written correspondences or inquiries should be addressed as follows:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Attn: Patricia Fernandez
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Responses will be in writing also. All this information will be posted on the Division of Water Rights website and the State Water Board's Scientific Peer Review website. Thank you once again, and we look forward to receiving your comments.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:

Patricia Fernandez
Senior Water Resources Engineer
Special Projects Unit

Enclosures