



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

Office of Research, Planning, and Performance

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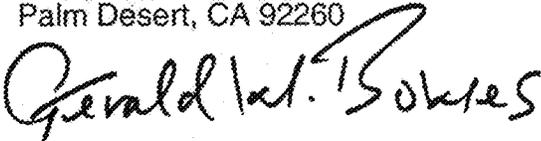
Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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AUG 23 2010

REGION 7

TO: Jose Angel, P.E., Assistant Executive Officer
Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board
Palm Desert, CA 92260

FROM: 
Gerald W. Bowes, Ph.D., Manager
Cal/EPA Scientific Peer Review Program
Office of Research, Planning, and Performance

DATE: August 16, 2010

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR EXTERNAL PEER REVIEWERS: PROPOSED
PROHIBITION OF SEPTIC TANK DISCHARGES IN THE TOWN OF
YUCCA VALLEY**

In response to your request for peer reviewers for the subject noted above, the University of California, through an Interagency Agreement with Cal/EPA, identified candidates it considered qualified to perform this assignment. Each candidate was required to complete and sign a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form and send it to me for review.

In a follow-up communication with candidates, I asked them to affirm there is nothing in their background a) that might be reasonably construed by others as affecting their judgment, and b) which might constitute an actual or potential source of bias. They also were asked to affirm they would be able to perform an objective and independent review.

Revisions: If you have revised any part of the initial request, please stamp "Revised" on each page where a change has been made, and date of the change. Clearly describe the revision in the cover letter to reviewers, which transmits the material to be reviewed. The approved reviewers have seen your original request letter and attachments during the solicitation process, and must be made aware of changes.

I provided candidates who were approved as reviewers the latest (January 7, 2009) Supplement to the Cal/EPA peer review guidelines, and am attaching it here. Please read it carefully. In part it provides guidance to ensure confidentiality through the peer review process.

The Supplement also notes reviewers are under no obligation to discuss their comments with third parties representing special interests after reviews have been submitted, and we recommend that they do not.

Reviewers must keep their identities confidential, and I ask that you do also to avoid compromising the external review. Reviewers approved are identified below.

1. Alexandria B. Boehm, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Jerry Yang and Akiko Yamazaki
Environmental and Energy Building
Stanford University
473 Via Ortega
Room 189 MC: 4020
Stanford, CA 94305
Telephone: (650) 724-9128
Fax: (650) 723-7058
E-mail: aboehm@stanford.edu

2. James R. Hunt, Ph.D.
Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering
University of California, Berkeley
625 Davis Hall, MC 1710
Berkeley, CA 94720-1710
Telephone: (510) 642-0948
E-mail: hunt@ce.berkeley.edu

Biographical information for the approved reviewers is attached to this memorandum.

Please contact your reviewers right away. Tell them when you will transmit the material. They have accepted the assignment based on the date of availability given in your letter of request to me. If preparation of the material is delayed, ask them if the new date is acceptable, including me as a "cc". If subsequent delays occur, inform the reviewers and me as soon as possible.

If the number of pages you plan to send the reviewers is significant, I recommend you provide them a hard copy of this material. You can enquire if any would prefer an electronic copy as well. Ask them; (1) if their preferred mailing address is the same as that given above; and (2) to provide whatever additional information is necessary for an overnight delivery service.

Please inform the reviewers that their review must:

(1) follow the guidance provided in the request for external reviewers letter, Attachment 2;

(2) address the topics listed in Attachment 2, as expertise allows, in the order given.

Please send me an electronic copy of your cover letter to the reviewers and an electronic copy of each review after you have received it.

If I can provide additional help, contact me at any time during the review process.

Attachments (3)

cc: Joan Stormo, Senior Engineering Geologist