

## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

2 November 2012

Steven M. Gorelick, Ph.D.  
Cyrus F. Tolman Professor  
Environmental Earth System Science  
450 Serra Mall, Building 320, Room 118  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA 94305-2115

Dear Professor Gorelick:

### **PEER REVIEW OF DRAFT STAFF REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED ROYAL MOUNTAIN KING MINE BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT, CALAVERAS COUNTY**

Thank you for agreeing to review the hydrogeological aspects of the draft Staff Report for the proposed Royal Mountain King Mine Basin Plan amendment.

My letter today is intended to initiate the next phase of the external review – the actual review itself.

Included in this letter are the following:

- a) The August 31, 2012 request for external reviewers, including 3 attachments, signed by Ken Landau, Assistant Executive Officer;
- b) January 2009 Supplement to the Cal/EPA Peer Review Guidelines;
- c) Key documents for review;
- d) Key supporting documents, including all references in electronic format, on a CD. We will send you hardcopy versions of any of the documents, to be delivered by US Postal Service, at your request.

#### Comments on the foregoing:

1. You have been sent the request letter during the solicitation process for reviewer candidates conducted by the University of California.
2. Attachment 2 of the review-request letter provides focus for the review and has been revised as indicated by additions in red. I ask that you address all topics, as expertise allows, in the order listed.
3. The January 7, 2009 Supplement. In part, this provides guidance to ensure the review is kept confidential through its course. The Supplement notes reviewers are under no obligation to discuss their comments with third-parties after reviews have been submitted. We recommend they do not. All outside parties are provided opportunities to address a proposed regulatory action through a well-defined regulatory process. Direct third-party inquiries to me.

Please return your review directly to me. Questions about the review, or review material, should be for clarification only. Questions should be provided in writing – email is fine, and addressed to me at [gmdavis@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:gmdavis@waterboards.ca.gov) or 11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. My responses will also be in writing. The State Water Resources Control Board

should not be contacted. At a minimum, the peer review will be posted on the State and Regional Water Board's Scientific Peer Review website.

Your acceptance of this review assignment is most appreciated. I would appreciate your review being completed by 3 December 2012.

Sincerely,

Gene Davis  
Associate Engineering Geologist

cc: Mr. Gerald W. Bowes, Office of Research, Planning and Performance, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento  
Patrick Pulupa, Office of Chief Counsel, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento  
Rik Rasmussen, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento