

May 3, 2006

Song Her, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, Ca. 95814



Re: Comment Letter - Pathogens in Tomales Bay
Email: comment letter @ waterboards.ca.gov;
Fax: 916-341-5620

Dear Members of the California State Water Resources Control Board:

My name is Lynnette Kahn. My husband Bob and I are residents of Marshall, California, a small hamlet on the east shore of Tomales Bay. We have owned and operated a bed and breakfast in Marshall for 15 years.

As local landowners and business owners, we have a vested interest in the cost and effectiveness of the proposed amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay region (Basin Plan - Tomales Bay). The proposed amendment now before you for consideration is flawed and is not based on the best available science as required by EPA guidelines. Dr. Corey Goodman, Professor of Neurobiology at U.C. Berkeley, and Journalist John Hulls have submitted testimony regarding these issues with the RWQCB-SF. Their testimony shows without a doubt that the proposed amendment does not establish a factual connection between the source of the pathogen and the remediation.

The "smoking gun" in this costly proposed plan is the RWQCB-SF's study at White Gulch. There are no human pathogen sources at White Gulch, only wildlife, and so the study used White Gulch as the fresh water control. Several times the TMLD levels at White Gulch were above, way above, those allowed in the amendment. Clearly the proposed limits are unrealistic. And yet, the RWQCB-SF is proposing that we landowners spend tens of millions of dollars in remediation, that RWQCB-SF has failed to demonstrate would make a bit of difference.

Dr. Goodman and several other professionals have repeatedly asked the RWQCB-SF staff to conduct a cost-effective MST study which would distinguish between fecal coliform from humans vs. agriculture vs. wildlife. Such a study would cost a few hundred thousand dollars, whereas the proposed remediation will cost

tens of millions of dollars.

We urge you to reject this proposed amendment and require The RWQCB-SF to begin the MST study that is necessary for establishing the connection between the proposed TMDL numeric targets and the identified pollutant sources.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynnette Kahn".

**Lynnette Kahn
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