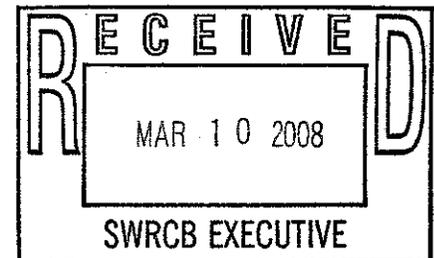


**DRY CREEK VALLEY ASSOCIATION  
P. O. BOX 1221  
Healdsburg, CA 95448**

March 10, 2008

**Fax to: 916-341-5620**  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 "T" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: Proposed Recycled Water Policy

To the Members of the Board:

The Dry Creek Valley Association (DCVA) is a non-profit organization with over 200 members whose mission is to protect and enhance the natural resources and the agriculture in the Dry Creek Valley near Healdsburg, California. Dry Creek Valley is located in the federally approved Dry Creek wine appellation. The Valley is planted mostly to premium grape vineyards and contains over forty wineries. Dry Creek of late has been faced with an effort by the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) to dispose of substantial quantities of waste water in Dry Creek Valley in a proposed project known as the Northern Sonoma County Agricultural Reuse Project ("NSCARP"). That proposed project is currently at the draft EIR stage in the CEQA process.

The DCVA is greatly concerned that the NSCARP project would have a profound negative environmental impact on a number of bases. In particular, the Association is concerned that:

- A. The application of waste water on the prime soils of the Dry Creek Valley would result in the contamination of the ground water in the Dry Creek Watershed with inorganic and organic substances.
- B. The perception of using waste water on the vineyards in the Dry Creek appellation would seriously impact the image of the wines from the Valley as premium wines made from the highest quality grapes in the Valley. This, of course, could lead to the wines from the Dry Creek Valley being put at a serious disadvantage in competition with wines from other wine growing regions in the state and, indeed, in the world. Just to make the point, other

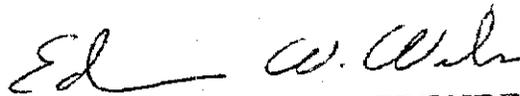
wine regions could advertise their wines as "wastewater free". Needless to say, image is paramount when it comes to premium wine.

The DCVA is concerned that neither the proposed California Recycled Water Policy nor the Certified Regulatory Program Environmental Analysis (with response to comments) adequately addresses the potentially serious environmental and economic impacts which would arise from the application of wastewater in premium wine growing regions in the state.

With respect to the potential adverse impacts on the ground water, neither the proposed Recycled Water Policy nor the Certified Regulatory Environmental Analysis adequately addresses the potentially serious consequences respecting the contamination of ground water with unregulated contaminants and emerging contaminants, especially where waste water is applied to porous agricultural soils, such as those located in the Dry Creek Appellation.

It is critical that the aforesaid issues be studied and meaningfully discussed in both the Proposed Recycled Water Policy and the Certified Regulatory Environmental Analysis.

Respectfully submitted,



EDWIN W. WILSON, PRESIDENT  
DRY CREEK VALLEY ASSOCIATION

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