



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

February 13, 2015

The Honorable Felicia Marcus, Chair
and Members of the State Water Resources Control Board
c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Marcus and Members of the Board:

Last year was a very difficult period for our state as drought severely impacted water availability to a diversity of stakeholders that included not only our urban/rural communities, but also the needs of our environmental and agricultural sectors. It was because of great cooperation and dedication on behalf of numerous state and federal officials that regulatory actions were undertaken efficiently and effectively to maximize operational flexibility and discretion for the benefit of all Californians.

As you consider the Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) by the California Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, I ask that you be mindful of the comments that DWR Director Mark Cowin will provide. The requested action is consistent with the Interagency 2015 Drought Strategy and is representative of the multi-agency collaboration that is critical to managing the state and federal operations in this continuing drought period.

California agriculture, the environment and our urban/rural communities will continue to be significantly harmed by this continuing drought, but by allowing the requested TUCP you are providing a regulatory foundation by which continued collaboration and cooperation among federal/state officials can result in beneficial action for all stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Karen Ross
Secretary

cc: Craig McNamara, President, State Board of Food and Agriculture
Members of the State Board of Food and Agriculture
Mark Cowin, Director, Department of Pesticide Regulations
David Murillo, Regional Director, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Chuck Bonham, Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

