

California State Senate

SENATOR
PATRICIA WIGGINS
SECOND SENATE DISTRICT

STANDING COMMITTEES:
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES
RETIREMENT
CHAIR
BANKING, FINANCE &
INSURANCE
ENERGY, UTILITIES &
COMMUNICATIONS

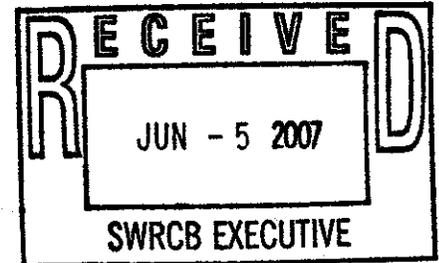
SELECT COMMITTEES:
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY,
CHAIR

June 5, 2007



6/19/07 BdMtg Item 10
WR Enforcement
Deadline: 6/6/07 Noon

Song Her, Clerk of the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: Water Right Enforcement Workshop – June 19, 2007

Members of the State Water Resources Control Board:

I write to express my strong support for the State Water Resources Control Board's (Board) development of a water rights enforcement policy consistent with the principle stated in the June 19, 2007 Water Right Enforcement Workshop notice that a "predictable, consistent and fair enforcement is required to ensure compliance with water right laws."

While enforcement is important to assure compliance with the law, I strongly encourage the Board to place a high priority on processing applications in a timely fashion. Many of my constituents have conscientiously pursued permits and have been confronted by a bureaucracy that makes it very difficult to comply due the time it takes to process permits.

As mentioned above, while I recognize the importance of an enforcement policy, I hope the policy will be fair when violations are identified. The Board policy would be more productive if, when violations are identified, the Board help the diverter, applicant, petitioner, permittee or licensee to bring their project into compliance rather than simply issue a fine. Since many violations are minor, I believe the Board can provide guidance to correct the violation without impacting other users or the environment.

Please contact my office should you have any questions regarding this matter and I look forward to working with the Board in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia Wiggins".

PATRICIA WIGGINS
Senator, Second District

PW:bw

