

**CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
DISCLOSURE FORM EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS REGARDING PENDING
GENERAL ORDERS**

1. Pending General Order that the communication concerned:
Ag Order 4.0
2. Name, title and contact information of person completing this form:
Ross Clark – Central Coast Wetlands Group. rclark@mlml.calstate.edu
3. Date of meeting, phone call or other communication:
May 8th
4. Type of communication (written, oral or both):
Written letter, sent by email
5. Names of all participants in the communication, including all board members who participated:
Chris Rose, John Robertson, Tammie Olson
6. Name of person(s) who initiated the communication:
Ross Clark
7. Describe the communication and the content of the communication:
See attached letter
8. Attach a copy of handouts, PowerPoint presentations and other materials any person used or distributed at the meeting. If you have electronic copies, please email them to facilitate web posting.



To coordinate the advancement of wetland science and management on the Central Coast
Moss Landing Marine Labs (821) 771-4463 www.centralcoastwetlands.org

May 7, 2019

To: John Robertson and Chris Rose,
Central Coast Regional Water Control Board

RE: Interest by Farmers and Landowners in the Salinas Valley to implement self-directed water treatment systems.

John and Chris, I have been given approval to submit the below drafted letter on behalf of the Salinas Valley farmers with which I have been working to improve water quality. Please forward this to Board members for consideration during the May Regional Board Meeting. If there are questions you can contact me or the undersigned directly.

Thank you,

Ross Clark
rclark@mlml.calstate.edu

Mr. Robertson and Rose,
We, the below noted representatives of our family owned and operated farms within the Salinas Valley, would like to confirm that we are interested in further developing off-farm water quality treatment technologies being demonstrated by the Central Coast Wetlands Group and Monterey County Resource Conservation District.

Our families and farms have supported the testing of pilot projects to remove nutrients from drainage water within the lower Salinas Valley. Recent data presented by CCWG have documented the significant reductions in nutrient concentrations as water flows through these pilot projects. New data from Moss Landing Marine Lab scientists are also documenting improvements to receiving water quality, demonstrating the cumulative effects of multiple farmer-supported projects.

These results demonstrate the opportunities for local researchers and resource managers to work with farmers to site, design, and construct off-farm treatment systems that can help to achieve water quality objectives.

We encourage the Central Coast Regional Water Board to integrate policy language within the draft Agriculture Order 4.0 that supports and encourages self-directed efforts by farmers and groups of farmers. We would be happy to work with Regional Board staff to develop effective "offramps" that provide equitable regulatory relief needed for farmers to

actively address watershed-scale water quality concerns and further improve receiving water quality.

Respectively,

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