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GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

FILE

4 February 2014

Mr. Eric Averett
Kern River Watershed
Coalition Authority
P.O. Box 151
Bakersfield, California 93302

CONDITIONAL NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY (NOA) ISSUED TO THE KERN RIVER WATERSHED COALITION AUTHORITY (COALITION) TO SERVE AS THE THIRD-PARTY UNDER GENERAL ORDER R5-2013-0120

On 18 October 2013, the Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA or Coalition) submitted an application to serve as the third-party entity to represent owners and operators of irrigated lands located within the KRWCA Coalition boundary subject to Waste Discharge Requirements General Order R5-2013-0120 for Growers within the Tulare Lake Basin Area that are Members of a Third-Party Group (General Order). Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board staff (Staff) reviewed the application and concluded that the proposed boundary of the Coalitions coverage area was insufficient and that modifications were needed prior to the approval of the Coalitions application. On 13 December 2013, Staff met with you to discuss the boundary issues and propose a more inclusive alternative boundary.

On 13 January 2014, you submitted an addendum to your October 2013 application that provides an opportunity for all owners and/or operators of irrigated lands within the primary and secondary KRWCA boundaries (see enclosed Figure 1) to fulfill their regulatory obligations through membership in a third-party group.

Based on staff review of your application and your record of representing growers under the Conditional Waiver, your Coalition meets the requirements of the General Order to serve as a third-party entity, provided that all enrolled irrigated agricultural lands within the primary and secondary KRWCA boundaries are considered by the third-party when meeting the requirements of the General Order.

APPROVED
DJA
Supervising Engineer

KARL E. LONGLEY ScD, P.E., CHAIR | PAMELA C. CREEDON P.E., BCEE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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This letter serves as a conditional Notice of Applicability and approval of the Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority to serve as a third-party entity under General Order provided your coalition accept the condition stated above. We believe your Coalition is well suited to meet the requirements of a third-party and to assist your members in complying with the General Order. We look forward to working with you and your members to protect water quality.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact David Sholes at (559) 445-6279 or dsholes@waterboards.ca.gov.



 Pamela C. Creedon
Executive Officer

Enclosures: Figure 1, Boundary Map
Table of Compliance Dates

cc: Joe Karkoski, Supervising Engineer, Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

FIGURE 1, MAP OF THE KERN RIVER WATERSHED COALITION AUTHORITY BOUNDARY

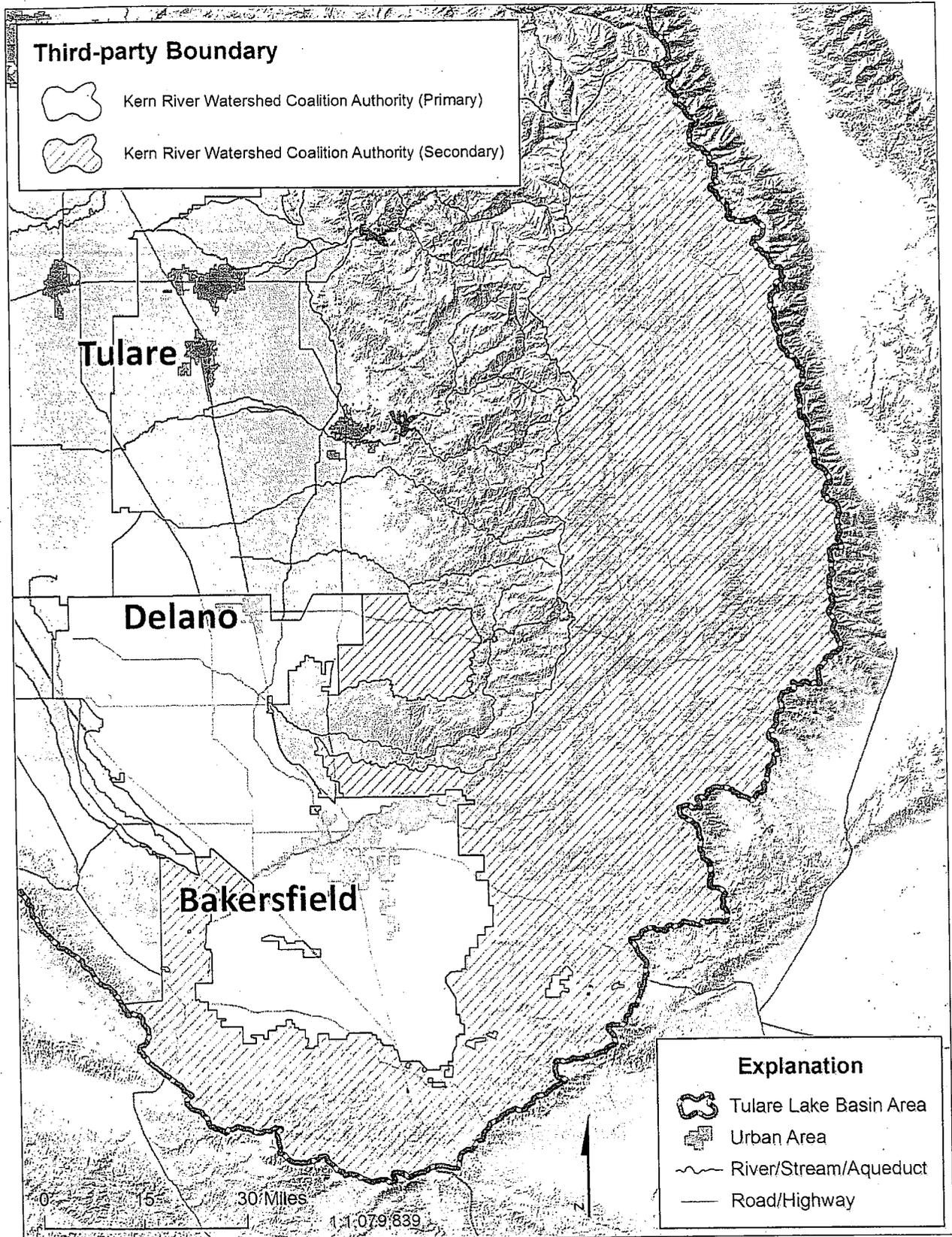


TABLE OF COMPLIANCE DATES ASSOCIATED WITH ISSUANCE OF THE NOA

| Due Date | Requirements |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 6 March 2014 | Provide Notice of Confirmation to Members |
| 5 May 2014 | Outline for Groundwater Assessment Report |
| 4 August 2014 | Notice of Confirmation Received from Current Members Surface Water Monitoring Plan |
| 5 August 2014 | Non-enrolled growers apply directly to Regional Board and Third-party |
| 2 September 2014 | Membership List |
| 4 February 2015 | Groundwater Quality Assessment Report (GAR) Sediment Discharge and Erosion Assessment Report (SDEAR) |
| 1 Year from approval of GAR | Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring Workplan Management Practice Evaluation Workplan (third-party only option) |
| 1 March 2015 | Farm Evaluation Template (All High Vulnerability areas) Nitrogen Management Plan Template (Large Farms in High Vulnerability areas) |
| 180 Days from approval of SDEAR | Sediment and Erosion Control Plan Template (Large Farms) |
| 2 Years from approval of GAR | Management Practice Evaluation Workplan (group option) |
| 1 Year from approval of SDEAR | Sediment and Erosion Control Plan Template (Small Farms) |
| 1 March 2016 | Farm Evaluation Template (Large Farms in Low Vulnerability areas) |
| 1 March 2017 | Nitrogen Management Plan Template (Small Farms in High Vulnerability areas and all farms in low vulnerability areas) |
| 1 March 2018 | Farm Evaluation Template (Small Farms in Low Vulnerability areas) |

*Based on the effective dates following the issuance of NOA as specified in the Order. The NOA issue date is 4 February 2014.