WHEREAS:

1. The Central Valley Water Board served as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the preparation of the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (Program EIR) for a waste discharge regulatory program for dairy manure digester and co-digester facilities within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Central Valley Region (Region 5)(SCH No. 2010031085).

2. A Notice of Availability (NOA) was circulated that notified interested parties of a 45-day public review and comment period (from 8 July 2010 until 23 August 2010) for the “Dairy Manure Digester and Co-Digester Facilities” Draft Program EIR. Copies of the NOA were transmitted to or made available to all agencies and persons known to be interested in these matters.

3. During the public comment period staff of the Central Valley Water Board received written comments on the Draft Program EIR and oral comments at two public meetings. Staff responded to the written and oral comments received on the Draft Program EIR and prepared a Final Program EIR for consideration by the Central Valley Water Board.

4. In the Program EIR, the Central Valley Water Board has identified mitigation measures that reduce potentially significant effects of the program to a less than significant level. CEQA Guidelines §15097 require the lead agency to prepare a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) prior to project approval. An MMRP will be incorporated into each order or other action taken pursuant to the program described in the Program EIR, including, but not limited to, the General Waste Discharge Requirements Order for Dairies with Manure Anaerobic Digester or Co-digester Facilities, scheduled for consideration and/or approval at the December 10 Board meeting.
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, pursuant to § 21080, et seq. of the California Public Resources Code, the Central Valley Water Board, after considering the entire record, including written and oral testimony at the hearing, certifies that:

1. The Final Program EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA.

2. The Central Valley Water Board has reviewed and considered the information in the Final Program EIR.

3. The Final Program EIR reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Central Valley Water Board.

CERTIFICATION

I, PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region on 10 December 2010.

Original signed by:

PAMELA C. CREEDON, Executive Officer