



October 8, 2010

Regional Water Quality Control Board,
Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Dr., Suite #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Attn: Kathleen Cole Harder

On behalf of the Los Rios Community College District, I write to express concern over the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control draft discharge permit recommendations to the Sacramento County Regional Sanitation District that will impose costs on our region of over two billion dollars. These recommendations attempt to reduce 'pollutants' that have not been proven to be harmful to the Delta and will have significant adverse economic impacts on our region's economy.

The approximately 8,000 employees of our District serve the higher education and job training needs of approximately 85,000 students in the greater Sacramento region through our four colleges: American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake, and Sacramento City colleges and major educational centers in Placerville, Davis, West Sacramento, Natomas, and Rancho Cordova. Given the economy and the state of the California budget, the District has been in the unfortunate position of not being able to serve all of the students who need higher education and job training services. Currently, the District spends almost \$400,000 in yearly sewer charges. We expect these recommendations to potentially triple our yearly costs. With little prospect for additional funding to cover increased enrollment, utility cost increases of the magnitude suggested by these recommendations will shut students out of classroom and negatively impact our employees.

Further, the District is in the midst of a building campaign that at its conclusion will bring on line over one billion dollars in new construction and modernized facilities to the region. These projects create jobs and more importantly the capacity to serve the needs of our current and future students. Obviously, significant rate increases will impair our ability to complete this building program within its present budget parameters. Further, the rate increases will greatly increase our ultimate operating costs when these projects are complete. Again, these increased costs will adversely impact the District.

For the above reasons, I urge you to reject these recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brice W. Harris".

Brice W. Harris
Chancellor