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Technical Committee Comments on the Draft Eastern San Joaquin River watershed WDR and MRP Governing Discharges from Irrigated Agriculture

Mr. Karkoski,

On May 17th the Technical Advisory Committee convened a conference call to review the draft ESJR WDR and MRP. This review provided initial comments. Subsequent meetings on May 30th, June 26th, and July 31st made additional changes and revisions. To accommodate the comment deadline, this letter is being submitted in anticipation of Executive Committee ratification on August 10, 2012. If any changes are made a follow-up letter will be submitted. The following are revised suggestions of the Committee:

CV-SALTS is working to develop a salt and nitrate management plan for the entire Central Valley. Stakeholder participation in the process is essential to developing a robust plan. Therefore CV-SALTS encourages all irrigated lands to participate in the process. Participation can include representation in the CV-SALTS process as well as the willingness to provide needed data to the group to be used to develop a more effective salt and nitrate management plan.

Because of the early stage of the CV-SALTS salt and nitrate management plan, the exact data needed from various regions for the plan have not been identified. However we can be certain that CV-SALTS will need water quality and water supply information from agricultural water users during the development of the plan. Therefore the CV-SALTS Executive Committee requests that the Regional Board encourage irrigated agriculture to actively participate in the CV-SALTS process and that agricultural interests be responsive to future data requests from CV-SALTS as these needs are identified.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the technical questions and issues presented by Regional Board staff.


Roger L. Reynolds
Co-Chair, CV-SALTS Technical Advisory Committee

cc:

Pamela Creedon, Executive Officer, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board