

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

8 May 2019

David Cory, CVGMC Co-Chair
Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition
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Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority
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APPROVAL OF REVISED GROUNDWATER QUALITY TREND MONITORING SCHEDULE FOR THE CENTRAL VALLEY GROUNDWATER MONITORING COLLABORATIVE

Thank you for your 15 April 2019 letter requesting to modify the sampling schedule for groundwater quality trend monitoring that will be completed under the Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative (CVGMC). The schedule change would move groundwater sampling from September-November (fall) to May-August (late spring/summer) for ten participating coalitions including:

- Buena Vista Coalition;
- Cawelo Water District Coalition;
- East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition;
- Grassland Drainage Area Coalition;
- Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association;
- Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority;
- Kings River Water Quality Coalition;
- Westlands Water Quality Coalition;
- Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition; and
- Westside Water Quality Coalition.

In your letter, you stated that nitrate and total dissolved solids data was available from both spring and fall samples for 35 wells located on the east and west sides of the San Joaquin River. In your review of this data, you noted little variability between the two seasons in comparison to the collective data for all seasons and noted that slightly higher concentrations occurred in spring, particularly for nitrate, with the most frequent nitrate difference from spring to fall being approximately 0.5 milligrams per liter as nitrogen. You also stated that geological and hydrological factors, as well as management practices may affect the difference in seasonal concentrations, so annual consistency in scheduling is likely of greater importance than the selection of a specific season.

Based on your assessment of historical data and influencing factors, I approve your request to shift the groundwater quality trend monitoring schedule from September-November (fall) to May-August (late spring/summer), beginning with the 2019 monitoring period, provided that this schedule remains consistent from year-to-year.

If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Peters by phone at (916) 464-4857 or by e-mail at ashley.peters@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

CC: Tim Ashlock, Buena Vista Coalition
David Hampton, Cawelo Water District Coalition
Parry Klassen, East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition
Joseph McGahan, Grassland Drainage Area Coalition
Donald Ikemiya, Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association
Charlotte Gallock, Kings River Water Quality Coalition
Debra Dunn, Westlands Water Quality Coalition
Phil Nixon, Westside Water Quality Coalition