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GOVERNOR SCHWARZENEGGER’S STATE WATER BOARD APPOINTEES CONFIRMED BY STATE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

SACRAMENTO – Gary M. Wolff, P.E., Ph.D. and Charlie Hoppin were recommended for confirmation Wednesday for their positions on the State Water Resources Control Board by the State Senate Rules Committee.

The terms on the State Water Board for Wolff run through January 2008 and for Hoppin run through January 2010.

Wolff, of Castro Valley, serves on the State Water Resources Control Board in the position of Professional Engineer. He was elected vice-chair by the members of the Board.

Before his appointment to the State Water Board, Dr. Wolff served as one of two appointments in the water quality category on the nine-member San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board.

Wolff is an expert in the economics and engineering of resource use, including water quality; water, energy, and materials end-use efficiency; and incentive policies.

His professional career has included solar energy construction contracting, water quality regulation for the State of California, design engineer at a wastewater treatment plant, founder and president of an engineering consulting firm, a post-doctoral fellowship at the Center for Conservation Biology at Stanford University, and a visiting professorship at the Graduate School of International Policy Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

His community service includes chair of the Castro Valley Sanitary District Community Advisory Committee, past president of the Alameda County Recycling Board, past chair of the East Bay Municipal Utility District Demand Management Advisory Committee, and past chair of the Board of WaterKeepers of Northern California (now Baykeeper).

Dr. Wolff received his Ph.D. in Resource Economics from the University of California at Berkeley, his master’s degree in civil and environmental engineering from Stanford University and his bachelor’s degree in Renewable Energy Engineering Technology from Jordan College.
Hoppin of Yuba City serves on the State Water Board in the position of water quality expert. He is a partner in a family-operated diversified farming operation in Yolo and Sutter Counties. The crop base includes fresh market melons, rice, walnuts, and a variety of small grains and oil seed.

Hoppin serves on the California State University Advisory Committee, and on the Board of Directors of Farmers Rice Cooperative where he is audit and finance Chair and Vice Chair of its Board.

Before his appointment to the State Water Board, Hoppin served as advisor to then Gov. Pete Wilson during the 1997 California Flood Recovery Effort, a Board member of Sutter Mutual Water Company and a member of the State Board of Food and Agriculture. He is the immediate past chair of the California Rice Industry Association. During his tenure at the Rice Industry Association, Hoppin played a key role in the industry’s environmental stewardship efforts.

The State Water Resources Control Board was created by the Legislature in 1967. The mission of the Water Board is to ensure the highest reasonable quality for waters of the State, while allocating those waters to achieve a balance of beneficial uses. The Water Board has five full-time salaried members, each filling a different specialty position.

For information on State Water Resources Control Board members, see:

http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/about/index.html

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