

June 15, 2016

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
Transmitted via email only

**(6/22/16) Public Hearing
Drinking Water Fee
Deadline: 6/22/16 by 5:00pm**

Re: Comment Letter – June 22, 2016 Board Meeting – 2016 Drinking Water Fees



Dear Ms. Townsend:

The Central Valley Salinity Coalition and the The CV-SALTS initiative appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed Drinking Water Fee Regulation. CV-SALTS is a stakeholder led group that is developing the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Central Valley Region. This group is made up of permitted dischargers, regulators, federal and state partners, as well as communities, environmental justice advocates, and others.

The Central Valley Salinity Coalition and Executive Committee of the CV-SALTS supports the staff recommendation to reduce fees for water systems serving Severely Disadvantaged Communities. We urge the Board to continue to work to keep fees as low as possible for all users, but support staff changes recommended under Section 64310. We understand that this change will result in systems that do not serve severely disadvantaged communities paying slightly higher fees, but we believe this is needed to help ensure the disadvantaged communities do not pay a disproportionate share of the cost burden for regulating clean drinking water. We also appreciate the time and effort the Division of Drinking Water puts toward these communities that often require significant assistance to provide reliable safe drinking water to their residents and businesses.

We appreciate your consideration of this request in helping reduce the adverse water quality and economic impact of salt and nitrate in the Central Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel B. Cozad".

Daniel B. Cozad
Executive Director
Central Valley Salinity Coalition, CV-SALT

