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November 12, 2017

Ms. Jeanine Townsend
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000
(sent via email to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)



RE: Proposed Approval of Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plans for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin Basins and the Tulare Lake Basin to Establish a Region-Wide Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) Beneficial Use Evaluation Process.

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed approval of amendments to the Water Quality Control Plans for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin Basins and the Tulare Lake Basin to Establish a Region-Wide Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) Beneficial Use Evaluation Process.

The proposed changes allow alternative methods for State and Regional Boards to reasonably implement a process by which to evaluate appropriate MUN beneficial uses in agriculturally dominated waterways.

Numerous agriculturally dominated waterbodies exist throughout the Central Valley and serve specific purposes with respect to supplying irrigation water and capturing drain water. Incorporation of the Sources of Drinking Water Policy (Resolution 88-63) had the unfortunate, unintended impact of improperly designating MUN to many of these facilities. The Draft Amendments provide a process for correcting this improper designation that occurred with that resolution.

Thank for this opportunity to offer our support of these proposed amendments. Additionally, we would ask for staff resources to be allocated in the future to properly evaluate aquatic life beneficial uses.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicole M. Bell".

Nicole Bell
Manager