



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



MARK B HORTON, MD, MSPH  
Director

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor

June 25, 2010

Pamela C. Creedon, Executive Officer  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Central Valley Region  
11020 Sun Center Drive #200  
Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

10 JUN 29 PM 3:32  
RECEIVED  
SACRAMENTO  
CVRWQCB

Dear Ms. Creedon:

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2010-XXX: ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRAL VALLEY  
DRINKING WATER POLICY FOR THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA AND  
UPSTREAM TRIBUTARIES

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has received a draft version of the subject resolution, and offers the following comments:

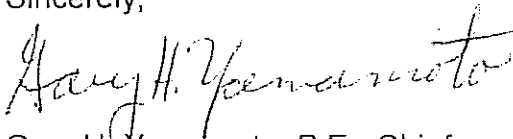
1. CDPH supports the establishment of a drinking water policy for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its upstream tributaries.
2. Finding no. 4 (page 1) states that "surface water drinking water supplies in the Delta are currently of sufficient quality that municipal water users are required to provide the minimum level of treatment specified in the regulations." It is true that the concentrations of *Cryptosporidium* oocysts are low enough to not trigger additional treatment requirements. However, total organic carbon (TOC) and bromide concentrations are high enough to require alternative disinfection technologies (i.e. ozonation, ultraviolet irradiation, and/or chloramination.)
3. Resolution element no. 2 (page 6) states that "other efforts that are underway are the appropriate venues for working on salt and nutrients." These efforts may generate relevant data, but their purpose is to address "questions related to the Delta aquatic food web and nutrients." The possible effect of nutrients on TOC in Delta waters is a different matter, and will require additional evaluation and analysis.
4. Resolution element no. 6 (page 7) recommends that CDPH "should evaluate data collected for the drinking water constituents of concern and provide input on potential public health impacts at the levels detected." We are certainly

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willing to provide this input; however, since the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment in California Environmental Protection Agency has responsibility of assessing the risks to public health, they should also provide input.

Please contact Carl Lischeske at (916) 449-5596 if you need further discussion on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary H. Yamamoto". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Gary H. Yamamoto, P.E., Chief  
Division of Drinking Water  
and Environmental Management