Ms. Lauri Kemper  
Assistant Executive Officer  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Lahontan Region  
2501 South Lake Tahoe Blvd.  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Cc: Scott C. Ferguson, Jan M. Zimmerman, Patty Kouyoumdjian, Doug Smith, Richard Booth, Lisa Scoralle, Chuck Curtis, AnnaKathryn Benedict, Patrice Copeland, Mike Plaziak, (RWQCB) Joanna Gibson, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

RE: Response to Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board comments, Draft Clean-up and Abatement Order R6V-2013-Draft Arimol Group Inc., and Meadowbrook Cedar, Inc. Lake Arrowhead, San Bernardino County WDID No. 6B363C63433

Thank you for your response and comments regarding the subject draft Clean-up Order dated July 3, 2013. Please accept this letter as an acceptance of those comments, edits and recommendations made by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board’s (RWQCB) Advisory Team, which also includes comments provided by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and other involved stakeholders.

We have noted that the draft CAO states that it will be necessary for us to obtain permits prior to commencement of the actual wetlands delineation work. Since permits are normally not requested until after a wetland delineation has been completed and the extent of potentially impacted waters has been determined, we are asking for further clarification. Specifically, we respectfully request clarification on the additional statement in the CAO that states that permits should be obtained prior to implementation of the surface water restoration plan. Obtaining all of the required permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lahontan Water Board, California Department of Fish and Wildlife (and any San Bernardino County planning permits) prior to beginning site restoration in accordance with the CAO’s stated deadline of September 27, 2013, seems impossible at this point considering the scheduled expectations. Perhaps it was the intent of the RWQCBs that application and submittals for the required permits be begun prior to commencement of the delineation work.

It is also our intent to complete surveys and a habitat analysis for the Rubber Boa prior to commencement of any ground disturbance, including planting, excavating and testing.

California native plant species will be procured from local sources and used to reestablish the vegetation that has/will be removed when the actual surface restoration work begins. A species list of the native plants to be used is forthcoming.

We have retained Edith Read, Ph.D. as our primary restoration consultant and she possess more than five (5) years of experience with restoration and surface water resources (involving fragile, montane environments located in southern California). In addition, we have retained Eric Dugan, Ph.D. as our primary herpetologist for this project. Dr. Dugan also possesses more than five (5) years of experience.
with the fauna and related habitats (involving fragile, montane environments located in southern California).

The correct legal references and authorities have been noted as per the RWQCBs recommendations and we fully intend to reference and use the information and resources provided on the State of California Water Board’s and California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s websites.

Schedule changes and deadlines have also been noted, and the extension of some of the restoration work to early 2014 is greatly appreciated and will give us additional time to produce a quality site restoration while meeting the many compliance and logistical requirements contained in the CAO, including permitting, restoration and mitigation planning, and completion of all site restoration and agreed-upon mitigation work.

The site wetland Delineation Plan will be submitted to all involved stakeholders by the August 2, 2013 deadline.

Again, the Arimol Group Inc., and Meadowbrook Cedar, Inc. intend to follow the recommendations, deadlines and related requirements provided by the draft and final CAOs and Lahontan RWQCB Advisory Team.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact me or Mr. Bruce Eilerts at telephone (562) 404-1113.

Sincerely,

The Sanberg Group, Inc.

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