

City of Turlock
Municipal Services
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Dan Madden
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January 9, 2005

303 (d) Deadline:
1/31/06

Mr. Craig J. Wilson
Chief, Monitoring and TMDL Listing Unit
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



Dear Mr. Wilson;

This letter is in regard to delisting of the Turlock Irrigation District's Harding Drain from the 303(d) list for ammonia, chlorpyrifos and diazinon.

The City of Turlock (City) agrees with comments and analysis recently prepared by the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) that support delisting the Harding Drain for these constituents. The City has taken action over the last several years to improve water quality in the Harding Drain, including extensive improvements of the Turlock Regional Water Quality Control Facility (RWQCF) to remove ammonia. Data collected regularly by the City show a considerable reduction in ammonia concentrations in the City's wastewater effluent discharge as well as the Harding Drain since the RWQCF upgrade was completed in May 2002. Additionally, data collected by the City also show improvements in the levels of chlorpyrifos or diazinon, with no observed exceedances of the water quality guidelines (0.014 ug/L and 0.1 ug/L, respectively) in the Harding Drain over the last several years.

The City urges the SWRCB to carefully consider the data collected by TID, the City and others, which reflect recent progress in improving water quality, and delist the Harding Drain accordingly. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (209) 668-5599 x4403.

Sincerely,

Dan Madden
Municipal Services Director
City of Turlock