



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

San Bernardino National Forest
Supervisor's Office

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File Code: 2720; 2540
Date: May 20, 2016

Victor Vasquez
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
1001 I Street
PO Box 2000
Sacramento CA 95812

Dear Mr. Vasquez:

Thank you for your comments on behalf of the State Water Resources Control Board related to the Nestlé Waters North America (Nestlé) Special Use Permit review. In your comments you suggest that the Forest Service evaluation could be affected by the type of water right being exercised. I agree with those comments, and in addition, Forest Service policy also requires that I determine that the applicant has a valid state water right before I may issue a water use permit.

Clarification of the precise nature of the water right is an important task that would benefit from the expertise of the State Water Board. In your comment letter you offered the assistance of the State Water Board in making that evaluation if requested. By this letter I am requesting the assistance of the State Water Board in the evaluation of the water rights held by Nestlé.

Please contact Forest Hydrologist Robert Taylor (rgtaylor@fs.fed.us, 909-382-2660) to discuss how you would like to proceed with the requested assistance. I have information from Nestlé regarding their water rights and have their response in digital format. I have also received comments from the public that may contain relevant information. You will have access to any records held by the Forest Service that are needed to assist in the review.

Thank you for your offer of assistance. The special expertise of the State Water Board staff is highly valued by myself and my staff, and I look forward to working with the State Water Board representatives.

Sincerely,

JODY NOIRON
Forest Supervisor

