



RON CHAPMAN, MD, MPH  
Director

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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor

July 23, 2013

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



Dear Ms. Creedon:

I am writing to confirm the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH's) support for the Delta Mercury Exposure Reduction Program (MERP). The primary goal of the Delta MERP is to reduce human exposure to mercury from consumption of contaminated fish in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. CDPH has a long history of implementing and supporting projects to address fish contamination issues and we welcome the opportunity to provide technical support and guidance for this important effort.

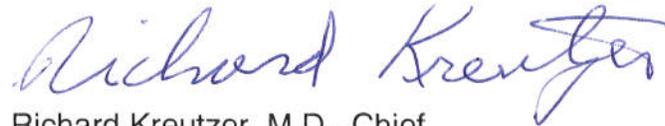
As you know, the Environmental Health Investigations Branch (EHIB) of CDPH has assisted your staff on the planning and development of the Delta MERP over the past year. EHIB has shared information and strategies from its past exposure reduction projects in the Delta and San Francisco Bay Area. EHIB staff participated in the Delta MERP work group and provided extensive feedback on the program strategy and work plan. Also, in order to ensure that the Delta MERP work plan includes perspectives from affected communities, EHIB staff recently met with eight community-based organizations (CBOs) and tribes in the Delta. The focus of these meetings was to educate the CBOs and tribes about the Delta MERP, learn about their awareness of fish contamination in the Delta, solicit their ideas about activities for reaching the populations they serve, and explore their interest in participating in the Delta MERP. Based on these discussions, EHIB provided several recommendations for improving outreach and education with respect to mercury contamination in fish.

CDPH will continue to support the Delta MERP during the implementation phase that will begin next year by attending the Delta MERP work group meetings and, depending on staff and resource availability, providing technical assistance which may include: (1) training and evaluation activities, (2) consultation on educational materials development, and (3) guidance to staff specifically hired to implement the program.

Ms. Pamela Creedon  
Page 2  
July 23, 2013

I look forward to our continuing collaboration with your staff on the Delta MERP. If you require further information, please feel free to contact me at (510) 620-3126.

Sincerely,



Richard Kreutzer, M.D., Chief  
Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control  
California Department of Public Health

cc: Patrick Morris, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Jonathan Bishop, State Water Resources Control Board  
Alyce Ujihara, California Department of Public Health