



December 19, 2014

Ms. Pamela Creedon, Executive Officer  
Central Valley Regional Water  
Quality Control Board  
11020 Sun Center Drive, #100  
Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

RE: TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR THE ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT  
IRRIGATED LANDS CONDITIONAL WAIVER MONITORING AND  
REPORTING PROGRAM

Dear Ms. Creedon:

The California Rice Commission (CRC) submitted the draft Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) for the Conditional Waiver for Rice (CWFR) before December 31, 2014, to comply with the reporting requirements of the *Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands*, or the Irrigated lands Regulatory Program (ILRP), and the Monitoring and Reporting (MRP) Order R5-2010-0805

Monitoring and assessment were conducted in accordance with the requirements of the MRP. Sampling included core site analysis for field parameters (temperature, DO, pH, electrical conductivity, and flow) and lab parameters (TOC, TDS, and hardness).

#### **Assessment of the 2014 CWFR Program**

This year represents the tenth full year of the CWFR program. The key successes and challenges faced during 2014 program implementation are summarized as follows:

- The CRC continued to implement a Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)-compliant electronic data submittal system, including laboratory prepared SWAMP-compliant Electronic Data Reports for chemistry analyses through the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN).
- **Temperature:** Temperature results indicate warm water conditions during the monitoring season. Core site temperatures were consistent with results observed in previous years. Water temperatures track with observed air temperatures. Peak temperatures were observed during the July monitoring event, with a high of 83.0°F.
- **DO:** Dissolved Oxygen (DO) results were lower than in previous years. DO trended below the 6 mg/L warm water standard, except at the upper part of Colusa Basin Drain where the readings were above 6 mg/L. Low DO (less than the WARM Water Quality Objective (WQO) of 5 mg/L) was observed during the May, June, July and August events at the other core sites. Nearly all observations were outside the 6.5 mg/L to 8.5 mg/L WQO range during 2014. The best results were at the upper Colusa Basin Drain site, dropping below 6.5 mg/L once during the June event.

- **pH:** There were no observations outside of the 6.5 to 8.5 pH range during the 2014 monitoring season.
- **EC:** Three samples had an EC value of greater than 700  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ . All were at the lower Colusa Basin Drain site during May, June and July. All other samples had EC readings below the 700  $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$  threshold for reporting during the 2014 monitoring season.
- **TDS:** Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) samples were collected at all events. High TDS was detected in May, July and September at three different sites. The maximum observed TDS was 540 mg/L, at the lower Colusa Basin Drain site in May.
- **TOC:** Total Organic Carbon (TOC) samples were collected at all events. TOC was generally lowest in August and highest in June and July 2014. The maximum observed TOC value was 11.5mg/L at CBD1 during the September event.
- Review of field and laboratory quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) samples indicates substantial achievement of quality objectives.
  - All field blank samples were found to have analyte levels below the Method Reporting Limits (MRLs). Field duplicate sample results were consistent with primary sample results.
  - Laboratory QA/QC substantially achieved data quality objectives. Method blanks achieved data quality objectives, with all results non-detect, as expected. Although a few of the Matrix Spike/Matrix Spike Duplicate (MS/MSD) and Laboratory Control Spike (LCS) samples were outside of data quality objectives, most samples had recoveries and Relative Percent Difference (RPD) values within the target range.

*"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for knowingly submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for violations."*

Sincerely,



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Tim Johnson  
President & CEO



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Roberta L. Firoved  
Manager, Industry Affairs