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## Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

3 April 2014

Mr. David J. Guy, President  
Northern California Water Association  
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 335  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### NAPA COUNTY PUTAH CREEK AND EL DORADO SUBWATERSHEDS PILOT WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PRACTICES PLAN ANNUAL REPORTS

Thank you for submitting the Pilot Watershed Management Practices Plan (Pilot Plan) Annual Reports for the Napa County Putah Creek and El Dorado subwatersheds of the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) on 2 July 2013. I accept and approve these reports in fulfillment of the requirements of the Pilot Watershed Management Practices Plans (Pilot Plans) as described in the Monitoring and Reporting Order R5-2009-0875. The Pilot Plans were approved for these two subwatersheds on 22 April 2010. An extension of the Pilot Plans was approved on 23 April 2012.

Each of these reports describes management objectives, management practices, and the implementation approach taken by the subwatershed groups to prevent agricultural discharge-related impacts to water quality. In addition, these reports show how the groups are demonstrating and verifying management practices implementation through grower surveys and by conducting inspections of a sampling of the grower members and their enrolled acres. The annual reports include the results from these surveys and inspections, showing over 95% implementation of best management practices on the farms in each of these subwatersheds.

Previous Pilot Plan approval letters from the Central Valley Water Board have stated that Pilot Plan requirements will be in place until they are superseded by alternative requirements or adoption of a new Monitoring and Reporting Program Order. The adoption of the new Order (MRP Order R5-2014-0030) took place on 12 March 2014. The new Order includes a reduced monitoring/management practices verification option that may be implemented within subwatersheds. A description of this option and its requirements can be reviewed in section III.C.1.a of the Monitoring and Reporting Program, which can be accessed at

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water\\_issues/irrigated\\_lands/new\\_waste\\_discharge\\_requirements/sacramento\\_river\\_watershed\\_wdrs/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/new_waste_discharge_requirements/sacramento_river_watershed_wdrs/index.shtml)

The new reduced monitoring option is similar but not identical to the Pilot Plans. The reduced monitoring option requires one year of comprehensive monitoring every five years. Under the

new Order, the subwatersheds are required to complete one year of monitoring before beginning the new reduced monitoring option. Since the Order was adopted in the midst of the 2014 monitoring cycle, the Napa Putah Creek and El Dorado subwatershed groups should continue to fulfill the requirements of the Pilot Plans for the remainder of the 2014 monitoring year (i.e. water year).

If the Napa Putah Creek and El Dorado subwatersheds qualify for the reduced monitoring/management practice verification option, these subwatersheds would be required to conduct assessment year monitoring for the 2015 monitoring year. During this assessment monitoring year, Farm Evaluation survey information would be collected and reported in the Annual Monitoring Report.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Mark Cady at 916-464-4654 or by email at [mcady@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mcady@waterboards.ca.gov).

*Original signed by*

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Executive Officer

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