



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

MAR 20 2012

Ken Harris  
Assistant Deputy Director, Division of Water Quality  
California State Water Resources Control Board  
P.O. Box 100  
Sacramento, California 95812-0100

Dear Mr. Harris:


Thank you for submitting the Basin Plan Amendment containing the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for pesticides and PCB impairments in Machado Lake. Based on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's review of the TMDL submittal under Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d), I have concluded the TMDLs adequately address the pollutants of concern and, upon implementation, will result in attainment of the applicable water quality standards for chlordane, DDT, dieldrin, and PCBs for Machado Lake. All required elements are adequately addressed; therefore, the TMDLs are hereby approved pursuant to CWA section 303(d)(2).

EPA received the State Water Resources Control Board's complete TMDL package for approval on January 30, 2012. The TMDLs include waste load and load allocations as needed, take into consideration seasonal variations and critical conditions, and provide an adequate margin of safety. The State has provided adequate opportunities for public review and comment on the TMDLs, and demonstrated how public comments were considered in the final TMDLs.

The TMDL submittal contains a detailed plan for implementing the TMDLs. Current federal regulations do not define TMDLs as containing implementation plans; therefore, EPA is not taking action on the implementation plan provided with these TMDLs. However, EPA concurs with the State's proposed implementation approaches.

If you have any questions concerning this approval, please call me at (415) 972-3572 or Cindy Lin at (213) 244-1803.

Sincerely,

  
Alexis Strauss  
Director, Water Division

cc: Samuel Unger, LA RWQCB