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TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Date: June 13, 2014
To: Darrin Polhemus, State Water Resources Control Board
From: Dr. Stuart W. Styles, ITRC Director
Sarah Crable, ITRC Engineer
Subject: Expert Panel Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2014

State Water Resources Control Board Nitrate Expert Panel

Expert Panel Chair, Dr. Charles Burt called the meeting of the Expert Panel to order at approximately 8:40 a.m. on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 in Tulare.

1. Introduction – Expert Panel Members

- Dr. Lowell Zelinski
- Till Angermann
- Dr. Charles Burt
- James duBois
- Bill Brush
- Robert Hutmacher
- Daniel Munk
- Mark McKean

2. Expert Panel Charge.....Dr. Charles Burt, Panel Chair

- Public comment process

**3. Clarification Item #1..... Joe Karkoski,
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

- Explained history on Central Valley Waste Discharge Requirements
- Explained sections of the Central Valley Waste Discharge Requirements in further detail
- Commented on Public Records Act
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

- 4. Clarification Item #2..... Clay Rodgers,
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**
- Commented on groundwater monitoring
 - Commented on Dairy Waste Discharge Requirements
 - Answered questions from Expert Panel members
- 5. Discussion by Expert Panel Members**
- Comments by Dr. Charles Burt
 - Comments by Till Angermann
 - Comments by Bill Brush
 - Comments by Dr. Robert Hutmacher
 - Comments by Daniel Munk
 - Comments by Dr. Lowell Zelinski
- 6. Public Commenter #1 Casey Creamer, Kings River Water Quality Coalition**
- Commented on Management Practices Evaluation Program (MPEP)
 - Commented on Certified Crop Advisor trainings
 - Commented on grower requirements under the Central Valley Waste Discharge Requirements
 - Answered questions from Expert Panel members
- 7. Public Commenter #2 Keith Freitas, Lemon Farmer**
- Commented on regulations being formed with scientific base
- 8. Public Commenter #3 Stephen Pavich, Farmer and Agricultural Consultant**
- Commented on best management practices
 - Commented on yields in relation to regulation
 - Answered questions from Expert Panel members
- 9. Public Commenter #4 Darlene Din, Agriculture Land Use Consultant**
- Commented on constructed wetlands used for surface water treatment and subsequent formation of wildlife habitat
 - Commented on technical outreach to growers in response to regulations
 - Answered questions from Expert Panel members
- 10. Public Commenter #5 Abby Taylor-Silva,
Grower Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties**
- Commented on Nitrate Hazard Index background and use in Central Coast Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements
 - Commented on Sustainable Groundwater Management Program and groundwater recharge
 - Answered questions from Expert Panel members

11. Public Commenter #6 Kay Mercer, KMI

- Commented on intellectual property of management practices of growers
- Commented on grower compliance uniformity in relation to Public Records Act
- Commented on field inspection prioritization
- Commented on distribution uniformity tests
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

12. Public Commenter #7Parry Klassen, East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition

- Commented on trend monitoring and Waste Discharge Requirements
- Commented on Management Practices Evaluation Program (MPEP)
- Commented on Nutrient Management Plan
- Commented on identifying indicators of nitrate uptake or leaching
- Commented on variability in the agriculture system
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

**13. Clarification Item #3..... Clay Rodgers,
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

- Answered questions from Expert Panel members
- Commented on background of monitoring requirements
- Commented on Management Practices Evaluation Program
- Commented on statistical error associated with groundwater monitoring data

**14. Clarification Item #4..... Darrin Polhemus,
State Water Resources Control Board**

- Commented on purposes of groundwater monitoring in relation to management practice and resource management
- Comments on non-point source policy requirements
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

15. Public Commenter #8John Schaap, Kern River Watershed Coalition

- Commented on requirements of Management Practices Evaluation Program
- Commented on monitoring well requirements of the Management Practice Evaluation Program
- Commented on cost of carrying out Management Practices Evaluation Program
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

**16. Clarification Item #5.....Joe Karkoski,
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

- Commented on grower reporting requirements

17. Expert Panel Discussion

- Each panel member brainstormed five or less items that should be reported by the farmer to the Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Dr. Charles Burt adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:30 p.m. on May 7, 2014. The next scheduled Expert Panel meeting will be held on May 9, 2014 in Sacramento.