



Linda S. Adams
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State Water Resources Control Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

March 3, 2011

Dr. David Charles Evers
BioDiversity Research Institute
652 Main Street, Gorham, Maine 04038

Dear Dr. Evers:

PEER REVIEW OF WATER QUALITY IMPACTS OF SUCTION DREDGING FOR GOLD

Thank you for agreeing to perform an the external scientific peer review of the water quality impacts of suction dredging for gold presented in the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR).

The purpose of this letter is to initiate external review. Included with this letter are the following documents:

- The request for external reviewers and five attachments;
- Attachment 4: a CD containing the Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) on suction dredging for gold, the SEIR's appendices, and references for Chapter 4.2 which will be the subject of your review (note: we are also arranging to have these materials posted on an ftp site); and
- January 7, 2009 Supplement to the Cal/EPA Peer Review Guidelines.

Attachment 2 to the request letter provides focus for the review. **Please address all topics, as expertise allows, in the order listed.**

The January 7, 2009 Supplement provides guidance to ensure the review is kept confidential through its course. Reviewers are under no obligation to discuss their comments with third parties after reviews have been submitted. All outside parties are provided opportunities to address a proposed regulatory action through a well-defined regulatory process.

For now, I am your primary contact. Questions about the review or review material that cannot be answered over the telephone should be sent (email is preferred) to me until

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further notice. All reviews and reviewers' CVs will be posted at the appropriate SWRCB program web site and provided to the Department of Fish and Game.

I would appreciate it if your review could be completed within 30 days after receipt of this material but we can stretch the review period to April 18, 2011 if you need more time.

Your acceptance of this review assignment is most appreciated.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Humphreys, Abandoned Mine Clean up Coordinator, PG #4304,
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