



State Water Resources Control Board

Office of Research, Planning, and Performance

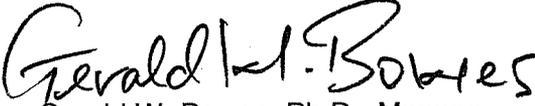
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Linda S. Adams
Acting Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

TO: Rick Humphreys
Mine Cleanup Coordinator
Groundwater Protection Section
Division of Water Quality

FROM: 
Gerald W. Bowes, Ph.D., Manager
Cal/EPA Scientific Peer Review Program
Office of Research, Planning, and Performance

DATE: March 2, 2011

SUBJECT: **REQUEST FOR EXTERNAL PEER REVIEWERS : Water Quality Impacts of Suction Dredging for Gold**

In response to your request for peer reviewers for the subject noted above, the University of California identified candidates it considered qualified to perform this assignment. Each candidate was required to complete and sign a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form and send it to me for review.

During the course of reviewing the disclosure forms, I contacted candidates for clarification on certain topics. I approved candidates as reviewers if they were able to affirm there is nothing in their background:

- a) that might be reasonably construed by others as affecting their judgment; and
- b) that might constitute an actual or potential source of bias.

Approval also required an affirmation they could perform an objective and independent review.

I provided reviewers with the attached January 7, 2009, Supplement to our peer review guidelines. The Supplement provides rules of conduct for both the organization requesting the review and the reviewers, in part to ensure the review process is kept confidential through its course. **Reviewers' identities can be made known only after the reviews have been received by the requesting organization.**

The approved reviewers are identified below.

1. Celia Chen, Ph.D., Research Professor
Department of Biological Sciences,
HB 6044
Dartmouth College
Hanover, NH 03755

Telephone : (603) 646-2376
FAX : (603) 646-1247

Email : celia.chen@dartmouth.edu

2. Joanna Curran, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Thornton Hall, Room B228
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA 22904

Telephone : (434) 924-6224
FAX : (434) 982-2951
Email : curran@virginia.edu

3. David C. Evers, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Biodiversity Research Institute
625 Main Street
Gorham, ME 04038

Telephone : (207) 839-7600
Fax : (207) 839-7855
Email : david.evers@briloon.org

4. A. Russell Flegal, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor
Department of Environmental Toxicology
University of California, Santa Cruz

Telephone : (831) 459-2093
Email : flegal@ucsc.edu

Biographical information for the approved reviewers is provided with this memorandum.

Please contact your reviewers right away telling them when you will transmit the material. They have accepted the assignment based on the date of availability given in your letter of request to me. If preparation of the material is delayed, ask them if the new date is acceptable, including me as a "cc." If subsequent delays occur, inform the reviewers and me as soon as possible

Ask your reviewers if they would like to receive the material to be reviewed electronically or as a hard copy, or both; and if the address given above is a preferred mailing address for hard copies.

Rick Humphreys

March 2, 2011

Provide a cover letter to initiate the review. Include with it your March 1, 2011 letter of request for reviewers to me. The original request was provided to them by UC during the solicitation process. Inform the reviewers their review must:

- (1) Follow the guidance provided in Attachment 2; and
- (2) Address the topics listed in Attachment 2 **in the order given**, as expertise allows.

Revisions: If any part of the initial request has been revised, describe the revisions in your new cover letter, and stamp "REVISED" on each revised page.

Please send me an electronic copy of your cover letter to reviewers and an electronic copy of each review.

If I can provide additional assistance, please contact me at any time during the review process.

Attachments (6)

cc: Elizabeth L. Haven, Assistant Deputy Director, Division of Water Quality

Rick Humphreys

March 2, 2011