



Dan Skopec
Acting Secretary

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Water Quality

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GWB



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

TO: Kenneth Landau
Assistant Executive Officer
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

FROM: Gerald W. Bowes, Ph.D.
Chief, Toxicology and Peer Review Section
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

DATE: MAY 19 2008

SUBJECT: PEER REVIEWERS FOR A PROPOSED BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT TO
ADDRESS METHYLMERCURY IN THE DELTA

In response to your request for peer reviewers for the proposed TMDL identified above, I am pleased to send you the name of two reviewers who have been selected to perform this review. These people have been approved by the University of California, Office of the President (UCOP), based on its review of a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form that each was required to complete.

The reviewers' names are given below. Please confirm with them that the review material should be sent to the address indicated:

1. Professor David Sedlak
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
657 Davis Hall
University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720-1710

Telephone: 510-643-0256
Fax: 510-642-7483
Email: sedlak@ce.berkeley.edu
Web page: <http://www.ce.berkeley.edu/~sedlak/>

Professor Sedlak had been approved earlier, and I had informally communicated this to your staff at the time.

2. Alexander J. Horne, Professor Emeritus
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Davis Hall, MC 1710
University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720-1710

Telephone: 510-525-4433
Email: anywaters@comcast.net
Web site: http://www.ce.Berkeley.edu/faculty/faculty_bio.php?name=Horne

California Environmental Protection Agency

MAY 19 2008

I am providing biographical information for Professors Sedlak and Horne with this letter.

You should now contact Professors Sedlak and Horne immediately. Let them know you have been notified that they will be the external reviewers for your proposed Board action. Also, tell them when to expect the material for review. The letter of request to me provided this information, and reviewer candidates' acceptance of the assignment often is conditional on their availability at that time. If the date has changed, confirm with the reviewers that the new date is acceptable. Keep in periodic contact with each reviewer if the date is expected to change again. I would like to receive copies of these email transmittals to keep up-to-date. I am always contacted by reviewers and the University when delays in the process arise.

In your initial contact with your reviewers, please ask them to confirm that they do not have a conflict of interest with respect to two issues noted below. These are not explicitly covered by the UCOP review. I want to emphasize that this is not meant to take much of their time (and you do not have to wait until you receive a response on this before sending the material to them). A quick email answer will be sufficient. They have just filled in a 14-page form and may wonder why that wasn't sufficient. I am now working with the University to include the following two provisions in that form:

Peer reviewers cannot have participated in the development of the scientific basis or scientific portion of the [PLACE TITLE OF PROPOSED BOARD ACTION HERE]. Further, peer reviewers must not have any economic conflict of interest with regard to the outcome of their comments or recommendations on the proposed Board action.

Your letter to the reviewers should include the same three attachments that you provided in your request letter to me.

When all interactions with them have been completed, please let me know for the peer review files I keep here. This information also is essential for the peer review tracking report I write each month, which is provided to Division management and our Executive Office.

My files also should include the peer reviewers' comments and Board responses, and I request that you send this information to me for the record as well.

If I can provide additional help, feel free to contact me at any time during the review process.

Attachments

cc: Ken Harris, Chief (all without attachments)
TMDL Section
Division of Water Quality

Rik Rasmussen, Chief
Planning, Standards, and Implementation Unit
Division of Water Quality

