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## State Water Resources Control Board

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

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

DATE: November 6, 2012

**SUBJECT: REVIEWERS APPROVED FOR PROPOSED BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT  
TO ADDRESS BENEFICIAL USES FOR GROUNDWATER AT THE ROYAL  
MOUNTAIN KING MINE SITE**

I am pleased to response to your request for scientific peer-reviewers for the subject noted above, The University of California, with whom Cal/EPA has an Interagency Agreement to identify reviewer candidates, recommended scientists it considered qualified to perform the assignment based on carefully conducted interviews.

Each candidate who was both interested and available for the review period was asked to complete a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form and send it to me for review. In follow-up communications with selected candidates, I asked for clarifications as necessary, and affirmation that there is nothing in their background: a) that might be reasonably construed by others as affecting their judgment, and b) which might constitute an actual or potential source of bias. They also were asked to affirm they would be able to perform an objective and independent review.

### Reviewers Approved:

- a) Steven M. Gorelick, Ph.D.  
Cyrus F. Tolman Professor  
Environmental Earth System Science  
450 Serra Mall, Building 320, Room 118  
Stanford University  
Stanford, CA 94305-2115  
Telephone: (650) 725-2950  
Email: [gorelick@stanford.edu](mailto:gorelick@stanford.edu)

- b) Kerry Rood, M.S., DVM..  
Associate Professor and Extension Veterinarian  
5600 Old Main Hill  
Utah State University  
Logan, UT 84322-5600  
  
Telephone: (435) 797-1882  
FAX: (435) 797-3959  
Email: kerry.rood@usu.edu

Curriculum Vitae are attached.

**Contacting Reviewers.** Contact the reviewers immediately. Tell them you have just learned of their identities, and when to expect review material. Keep them informed of delays, and ensure new dates are acceptable. Include me as a "cc" on communications indicating delays.

**Initiating the Review.** Send the reviewers a cover letter with the following:

- a) original letter of request for reviewers and attachments, which was sent to them by the University during the solicitation process;
- b) Key Document(s) for Review;
- c) Key Supporting Documents.

An example of a cover letter initiating the review is attached. Please send me a copy of the cover letter.

**Essential Directions.** Tell your reviewers in the cover letter:

- a) **Follow the review guidance provided in the initial letter of request for reviewers, Attachment 2.**
- b) **Address all topics listed in Attachment 2, as expertise allows, in the order given.**

**Revisions.** If you have revised any part of the initial request, stamp "Revised" on each page where a change has been made. Clearly describe the revision in the cover letter. Reviewers must be made aware of changes.

**Mode of Transmission.** Review material frequently is sent electronically. Hard copy is recommended for lengthy documents and documents with fold-out sections. Confirm electronic and hard copies have been received by reviewers.

**Confidentiality of the Review Process.** Approved reviewers were sent the attached January 7, 2009 Supplement to the Cal/EPA Peer Review Guidelines. Please read it carefully. In part it provides guidance to ensure confidentiality through the peer review process. Reviewers must keep their identities confidential, and I ask that you do also to avoid compromising the external review.

**Communication Restrictions.** Communications between reviewers and requesting organizations are restricted to questions of clarification. Both enquiries and responses must be in writing.(email is fine). If you prefer, all communications can be routed through me.

**Contacts by Outside Parties.** After reviews have been submitted, the Supplement notes reviewers are under no obligation to discuss their comments with third parties, and we recommend they do not.

All outside parties are provided opportunities to address a proposed regulatory action through a well-defined rulemaking process. Ask your reviewers to direct third parties to you, or a designated staff person, with comments or suggestions in writing.

**Completed Reviews.** These are to be sent directly to the person signing the letter initiating the review, unless directed otherwise.

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

cc: Sue McConnell  
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
smcconnell@waterboards.ca.gov

Gene Davis  
Associate Engineering Geologist  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board  
gdavis@waterboards.ca.gov

Attachments (4)

- 1) Curriculum Vitae – Steven M. Gorelick, Ph.D.
- 2) Curriculum Vitae – Kerry Rood, M.S., DVM.
- 3) Example of Letter Initiating Review
- 4) Supplement to Cal/EPA External Scientific Peer Review Guidelines