



Terry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

1. Steve Verigin 2. Barbara McDonnell
State Water Resources Control Board



Division of Water Rights

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

APR 07 2004

Stephen Verigin
Acting Chief Deputy Director
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-001

Susan Ramos
Assistant Regional Director
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1098

Dear Mr. Verigin and Ms. Ramos:

REVIEW OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PROGRAM (EMP)

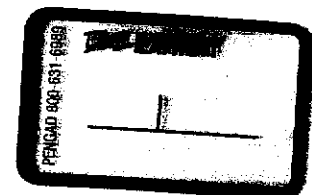
This letter replies to your correspondence dated February 5, 2004¹. Staff members of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) are currently preparing a report to the Board as part of the Periodic Review of the 1995 Water Quality Control Plan (Plan). This staff report reviewing the 1995 Plan will identify issues that staff recommends should be the subject of subsequent amendments to the 1995 Plan. After the SWRCB adopts the staff report, the SWRCB will convene a series of workshops to receive detailed information about the proposed amendments to the 1995 Plan. Subsequently, the SWRCB staff will prepare draft amendments or a draft revised water quality control plan. The SWRCB will consider such a draft or drafts at a hearing and subsequently at a Board meeting.

Staff expects to recommend in its Periodic Review report to the Board that the SWRCB consider making the modifications to the sampling stations of the Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP) suggested in your letter and Periodic Review comments of February 5. Specifically, you suggested changes for seven-compliance/baseline stations (C9, C10, D10, D12, D22, D24 and S42), proposed adding nine additional monitoring stations, and proposed a change in the sampling interval for the Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP).

Condition 11 of D-1641 (p. 149) directs the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to perform the Water Quality and Baseline Monitoring program described in Table 5 of D-1641 and Table 4 of the 1995 Plan. D-1641 implements the

¹ This letter is dated February 5, 2004 but the SWRCB did not receive it until March 8, 2004. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

XC: Phil Wendt
Steve Ford
Anita Mueller-Solger
done
4/8/04



Stephen Verigin
Susan Ramos

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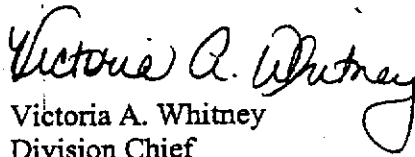
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1995 Water Quality Control Plan. The current periodic review, and the subsequent workshops for the Board to receive detailed information about suggested Plan amendments, address only the 1995 Plan. To implement the changes you are requesting, the SWRCB would subsequently hold a water right proceeding to consider revisions to the water rights of the Bureau and the DWR in addition to the revisions in D-1641.

If at the end of the current periodic review the Board decides to consider amendments to the Plan, all parties will have an opportunity at workshops on Plan amendments to present their rationale for changes they propose. In reviewing the information submitted in your letter, staff believes issues to consider at a future workshop are: the relationship between current and future data if the established baseline station is at a different location, demonstration of how the altered baseline station locations will not affect the compliance stations, and clarification of the reasons for moving the stations. At the conclusion of the workshops, the staff will prepare any amendments to the Plan. If amendments are required, staff will also prepare the necessary documentation to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act.

If you have further questions, please contact, Gita Kapahi, Chief of the Bay-Delta/Special Projects Unit, at (916) 341-5289.

Sincerely,


Victoria A. Whitney
Division Chief