

**TESTIMONY OF JERRY ROBINSON
HEARING ON PROPOSED CEASE AND DESIST ORDER TO
DWR AND USBR**

My name is Jerry Robinson. I am a Director of the South Delta Water Agency and am currently its President. I was raised in the Delta and have farmed there for the past 40 years.

One of the farming operations in which I am involved is Lafayette Ranch, located on the eastern side of Union Island, and bordering Middle River (see Attachment "A"). This ranch diverts under License #003677 (Attachment "B" is a recent Report of Licensee for that license), although we also assert a riparian right. Lafayette Ranch currently grows tomatoes, cabbage, safflower, and in the past has grown alfalfa, wheat, and corn.

As a farmer downstream of Vernalis, we do not receive the full protection of the salinity standard at that location as water quality degrades as it travels downstream. I understand this Board first developed the 0.7/1.0 EC objective for Old River near Middle River in 1991, but that since that time, the 0.7 portion of the standard has not been enforced or applied until April of 2005.

As a long-time Director of the South Delta Water Agency, I am generally familiar with the ongoing problems of water quality, circulation, height, and quantity in the South Delta. It is my belief that after having gone this long without the necessary protection of the standards, the SWRCB should require the DWR and USBR to meet the 0.7/1.0 EC standards at the three interior South Delta stations, and not excuse or delay compliance.

Improved water quality resulting from enforcement of the standards will benefit not only me and my neighbors but provide multiple benefits to all users of Delta water.