



July 30, 2015

Mr. Kenneth A Harris Jr., Executive Officer
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Dear Mr. Harris:

In accordance with the schedule set forth in the Central Coast Regional Board's April 22, 2015 letter, the Central Coast Groundwater Coalition (CCGC or Coalition) is submitting the Final "*Southern Counties Groundwater Quality Characterization Report*" (Southern Counties Report or Report) before the July 31, 2015 due date.

Consistent with the Southern Counties Workplan (i.e., *Central Coast Coalition Work Plan for San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties*; November 2013). The primary objectives of this Report are: 1) develop a process-level understanding of the spatial distribution of nitrate concentrations in domestic supply wells with single connections or a small number of connections, and 2) identify regions for evaluation of agricultural land- and water-management practices to reduce discharges to groundwater. Additionally, in accordance with the Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands (Order No. R3-2012-0011, Agricultural Order), CCGC's cooperative groundwater monitoring effort includes sufficient monitoring to adequately characterize the groundwater aquifer(s) in the local area of the participating CCGC members, characterize the groundwater quality of the uppermost aquifer, and identify and evaluate groundwater used for domestic drinking water purposes.

Appendices in the Final Report include:

- Checklist of reporting requirements;
- Response related to submittal of ancillary data;
- Explanations related to the development of variogram models for kriging;

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- A tabulation and explanation related to the wells excluded from nitrate mapping (i.e., this includes the data from the entire dataset used for mapping not just CCGC member wells);
- QA/QC and data precision, accuracy, and completeness;
- CCGC sampled well information and results; and
- Expanded exceedance notification report.

With the submission of the Final Southern Counties Report, the CCGC has complied with the terms and conditions set forth in the Southern Counties Work Plan and subsequent correspondence between the Regional Board and the CCGC. As the Regional Board's July 27 letter accepted the Draft Report as conditionally complete and acceptable, the Final Report is substantially the same as the Draft Report except that the Final Report is now signed and stamped and draft notations have been removed.

The Coalition is committed to maintaining compliance with the Agricultural Order while providing a work product of value to its members and the public. We appreciate the Regional Board's coordination with the Coalition on the expedient completion of the enclosed Final Report.

Sincerely,



Parry Klassen
Executive Director



Tim Borel
Chair, Board of Directors

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