

California Farm Bureau Federation

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

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Via Regular U.S. Mail and E-Mail (commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov)

February 17, 2017

Ms. Felicia Marcus, Chair Members of the Board State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95815 Public Comment Beneficial Uses and Mercury Objectives Deadline: 2/17/17 12 noon



Re: Comment Letter – Beneficial Uses and Mercury Objectives

Dear Chair Marcus and Members of the Board:

The California Farm Bureau Federation ("Farm Bureau") submits these comments on the January 3, 2017 draft Staff Report for Part 2 of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries in California – Tribal and Subsistence Beneficial Uses and Mercury Provisions ("Plan"), as to the proposed new beneficial uses that would be added to the Plan.

Farm Bureau is a non-governmental, non-profit, voluntary membership California corporation whose purpose is to protect and promote agricultural interests throughout the state of California and to find solutions to the problems of the farm, the farm home and the rural community. Farm Bureau is California's largest farm organization, comprised of 53 County Farm Bureaus currently representing nearly 48,118 agricultural, associate and collegiate members in 56 counties. Farm Bureau strives to protect and improve the ability of farmers and ranchers engaged in production agriculture to provide a reliable supply of food and fiber through responsible stewardship of California's resources.

Farm Bureau is in particular concerned about the relationship between the proposed new beneficial uses in the Plan and potential instream flow requirements. In that regard, Farm Bureau endorses the comments of the Northern California Water Association on that subject, delivered by letter as of this date. We hope you will consider and incorporate those comments and suggested revisions in the Plan.

NANCY N. MCDONOUGH, GENERAL COUNSEL ASSOCIATE COUNSEL:

Ms. Felicia Marcus

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Thank you for your consideration of the foregoing.

Very truly yours,

Chris Scheuring Managing Counsel

Cc: David Guy, Northern California Water Association