

MEMORANDUM

To: State Resources Control Board  
From: Lorraine Adams  
Date: February 8, 2010  
Re: Unappropriated Water

Kern County, like the rest of California, has been adversely impacted by the drought. We rely quite heavily on our groundwater. The drought has caused agricultural users to drill more wells to pump water for their crops. This is understandable because their other supplies have been greatly curtailed. Unfortunately, this extra pumping has had adverse impacts on our aquifer. In some instances, the ground above the aquifer has actually sunk due to excess pumping of groundwater.

It is my understanding that the City of Bakersfield wants to run unappropriated water down the Kern River to recharge the aquifer. If doing so will in fact recharge our groundwater supply, I strongly urge you to approve the draft recommendation finding the Kern River not fully appropriated and approve the City of Bakersfield's request to run that unappropriated water down the Kern River. Our community relies heavily on our groundwater and greatly needs a source to recharge it.

