

EIO/KN
AB2121

GREGORY & KAREN CROUSE

April 16, 2008

Ms. Karen Niiya, Senior Engineer
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95814

STATE WATER RESOURCES
CONTROL BOARD
2008 APR 23 AM 10:17
DIV OF WATER RIGHTS
SACRAMENTO

Re: Comment Letter - AB 2121 Policy

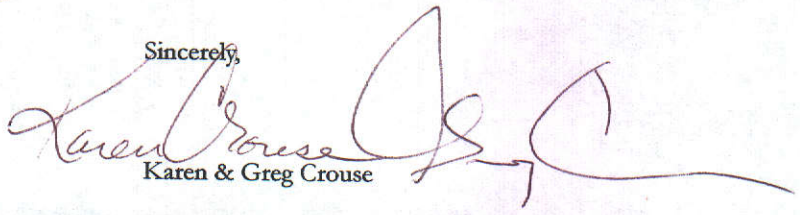
Dear Ms. Niiya

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Policy for Maintaining In stream Flows in Northern California Coastal Streams ("Policy"). We are landowners in Napa County and farm 16 acres of vineyard and have a pending water right application that seeks to appropriate only 2 acre-feet from an unnamed creek within the Napa River watershed. This application has been pending with the Division of Water Rights since 1999.

We believe that the adoption of this Policy will further delay approval of our project and other projects like ours, many of which we understand have been pending over ten years. Applicants deserve a clear and effective process for obtaining a water right permit, and it is our understanding that this would not be accomplished pursuant to the proposed Policy because the majority of pending applicants would be forced to seek a variance to the Policy. Further, we believe it is questionable that the fishery resources within the areas affected by the Policy would be benefited significantly from the imposition of the bypass and diversion limitation criteria being proposed.

The State Water Resources Control Board should reject the Draft Policy and replace it with a policy that addresses water right processing and provides a balance between economic and environmental needs. I look forward to your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,



Karen & Greg Crouse

cc: Tam Doduc, Chair, SWRCB
SWRCB Members: Arthur Baggett, Jr., Charles Hoppin, Frances Spivy, Gary Wolff

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