STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2005 - 0024

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING PROJECTS AND AUTHORIZING ISSUANCE OF GRANTS AND AMENDMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY GRANT PROGRAM (AWQGP)

WHEREAS:

- 1. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is authorized to administer \$11.4 million in bond funds from the *California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002* (Proposition 40) and \$29.5 million in bond funds from the *Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002* (Proposition 50) for the AWQGP;
- 2. Surface water quality problems associated with runoff from irrigated agricultural lands are widespread in California;
- 3. Funding is needed to define and identify sources of surface water quality problems associated with irrigated agricultural runoff, and to implement measures to reduce or eliminate polluted runoff from irrigated agricultural land;
- 4. The SWRCB considered input from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and State government agencies associated with agricultural practices in California, a broad spectrum of stakeholders, and the public regarding the development and implementation of the AWQGP;
- 5. The SWRCB adopted Resolution No. 2004-0053 on August 26, 2004, approving the AWQCP Guidelines for implementing the program;
- 6. The proposals on the Recommended Projects List (RPL) were reviewed according to criteria in the AWQCP Guidelines by a review panel made up of staff from the SWRCB, eight Regional Water Quality Control Boards, US Environmental Protection Agency, US Geologic Survey, CA Bay-Delta Authority, CA Department of Food and Agriculture, CA Department of Pesticide Regulation, CA Association of Resource Conservation Districts, Wetlands Subcommittee of the Interagency Coordination Committee, UC Davis Department of Entomology, and UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program. The proposals were also reviewed for administrative readiness by DFA staff; and
- 7. The RPL was prepared by the Selection Panel, composed of liaisons from the review panel, in accordance with the adopted AWQGP Guidelines. The projects recommended for funding are those judged by the Selection Panel most likely to reduce or eliminate pollution from irrigated agricultural lands.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Resources Control Board:

- 1. Approves funding for projects as recommended on the attached Recommended Projects List; and
- 2. Authorizes the issuance of grant agreements and amendments to implement the projects.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on March 16, 2005.

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Clerk to the Board