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July 14, 2006

Mr. David C. Carlson, Ph.D.
Chief, NPDES Section
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114

RECEIVED
CORPORATE
OPERATIONS
DIVISION
JUL 19 2006

Dear Dr. Carlson:

Subject: Comments on Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements (NPDES No. CA0084271) and Time Schedule Order for Mountain House Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Alameda County Water District (ACWD) is pleased to have the opportunity to submit comments on the Tentative Waste Discharge Requirements and Time Schedule Order for the Mountain House Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Plant. As a public water utility that serves water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to over 320,000 people in the cities of Fremont, Newark and Union City in the San Francisco Bay Area, ACWD has a strong commitment to the protection of public health through source water protection in the Delta.

ACWD would like to commend the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) staff for their thoughtful consideration of drinking water quality issues in preparing the subject tentative order, and for their continued work on the Central Valley Drinking Water Policy project. Requiring filtration, UV disinfection and nitrification/denitrification of Mountain House's wastewater effluent will provide greatly improved protection of drinking water from pathogens and nitrogen in the future. We are pleased that the Regional Board is requiring Mountain House to conduct a study of salinity source control and treatment measures, as salinity is an important parameter for both downstream water users and meeting Delta salinity requirements.

While the tentative order requirements make great strides in drinking water protection, we encourage the Regional Board to consider further permit provisions to improve protection for nutrients, organic carbon and salinity. In addition, we would like to request that a requirement be added to directly notify ACWD and other downstream drinking water agencies of any spills of untreated or partially treated wastewater from the Mountain House Wastewater Treatment Plant or collection system that reach Delta waters. Due to the relatively short travel time between

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the Delta and our treatment facilities, real-time water quality information and notification of events that could affect the quality of our source water are extremely important to us, so that appropriate operational and treatment decisions can be made in a timely manner. ACWD also supports comments on these issues that have been submitted by the State Water Contractors and California Urban Water Agencies in regards to the subject tentative order.

We appreciate this opportunity to comment on the tentative order and commend the Regional Board staff for their commitment to protecting drinking water as a beneficial use in the Delta. Should you have any questions about the above comments, please feel free to contact me at (510) 668-6501. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karl B. Stinson for". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karl B. Stinson
Operations Manager

lh
By Fax