

CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

RECORD OF COMMUNICATION

Phone Call

Other (specify)

Meeting

E-mail _____

PARTIES

Terry Bechtel phone call to July 6, 2011 Del Mar Farms complainant (name withheld by request)

DATE: 6 July 2012

TIME: 11:30 am

* Party Initiating Communication

SUBJECT: Phone conversation with 6 July 2011 Del Mar Farms complainant (Complainant requested their name be withheld)

Phone Number:

Cell Number:

SUMMARY OF COMMUNICATION:

On July 6, 2012 I called the person who called in the 6 July 2011 complaint regarding a sediment discharge into the Amaral Line along JT Crow Road. The call was to advise the complainant that the matter may go to a Board Hearing and that there would be an opportunity to attend and/or present comments. The complainant wished to remain anonymous. As part of the conversation, the complainant described the nature and basis of the complaint. Below is a summary of the issues he described:

- The complainant used to have significant problems with the sediment load of supply water in the Amaral line and that it continually plugging up the orchard irrigation system filters. The heavier sediments could be back flushed, but not as well for the silt. The silt loading required periodic physical removal from the sand media filters. The complainant said that it finally got to the point that 4 years ago he re-plumbed his system to get the orchard irrigation supply water from the line to his south, the Oil Station Line, which was less impacted by sediments. The complainant said that when Del Mar Farms started farming these properties, during the 2011 season they irrigated it the same way that the previous operator did with the same sediment load in the Amaral Line.
- The complainant also said that he currently uses Amaral Line water for irrigation supply for row crops, and that the sediments in the supply water periodically fill his irrigation ditches making it more difficult to manage the irrigation system.
- Another concern that was stated was that if problems continue to occur in the Westside, that the regulatory requirements will become more severe and costly for all of the farmers. The complainant said he has been expressing his concerns about this to a number of people in a number of agencies and districts of various types. He named a few of the agencies, but for the purpose of this record are not mentioned.
- An additional comment was that he has been hearing from farmers in other areas that their irrigation districts have seen the ACL Complaints and have been telling their growers that they need to start evaluating their management practices because these are the things that can happen.

CONCLUSIONS, ACTION TAKEN OR REQUIRED: None required

REVIEWED BY:



WRITTEN BY:

Terry Bechtel