



March 11, 2013

To: State Water Resources Control Board

SupHerb Farms is very concerned about your proposal requiring the Merced, Tuolumne, and Stanislaus Rivers to dedicate 35 percent of unimpaired flow to fish and wildlife. This proposal will have significant impact on our area as well as on our business at SupHerb Farms.

SupHerb Farms grows, harvests, processes and sells frozen herbs to food processors and foodservice customers all over the world. Our facility is located in Turlock and we secure raw products from Stanislaus, Merced and San Joaquin counties. We employ 125 people and our annual payroll exceeds 4 million dollars. We depend on the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) for all of our electrical power, which is one of our biggest cost components.

This proposal would adversely impact hydropower production in our region by taking water from reservoirs during the spring, leaving less water available in the summertime which is needed to irrigate crops. Moreover, this will increase the cost of electricity for those of us in TID. This is on top of current rate increases which are needed to fund TID's investment in California's renewable energy objectives.

SupHerb Farms is faced with many challenges that range from increasing government regulations to foreign competition to ever increasing costs. We cannot continue to absorb more cost increases and be competitive in the world market.

This proposal is not based on science and is in conflict with other options of which you have been advised.

SupHerb Farms strongly urges the Board to reject this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Brem".

Mike Brem
President