

## State Water Resources Control Board

September 30, 2015

Contact Name  
Address  
City, CA Zip

Dear Contact Name,

Today marks the end of the four-month voluntary water conservation program among in-Delta riparian water rights claimants. Thank you for volunteering to be part of this program and for your conscientious effort to reduce surface water diversions during this critical period of our on-going drought emergency.

My colleagues and I appreciate the sacrifices that have gone into reducing diversions, and we have come to respect the care, attention and creativity that you and most of your neighbors have expended to make water conservation a larger part of your agricultural practices—all without waiving any of the protections afforded riparian water rights under California law.

Based on our summer-long verification inspections, it has already become clear that your efforts have yielded significant benefits:

- Exceeded the overall target of reducing Central and South Delta diversions by 25% from the 2013 base;
- Marginally reduced the overall pressure on our drought-ravaged water system;
- Provided an opportunity to gather data so that we will be better able to correlate reduced diversions with corresponding reductions in consumptive use within the unique setting of the Delta;
- Identified strategies for reducing diversions proportionally far more than the corresponding diminution in crop yields or farmgate values; and
- Demonstrated that the Central and South Delta farmers, working together, can contribute to ameliorating the effects of California's devastating drought.

As part of your application to participate in the program, you agreed to provide a post-action report of how your plan was implemented. In order to reduce the burden of preparing your report and to provide a standardized format, we have developed an on-line template. You can access the template at <https://planimplementation.waterboards.ca.gov>. **When you access the site use this unique "Plan Name:" *Plan Name* and this unique "Password" *password*.** The form automatically saves your entries, so you can (1) complete the form in one or several sittings; (2) update and correct your entries as necessary; and (3) make additional changes even after you submit the form. (The "final" report will be designated based on the latest data entry.) We also left a space for your comments and incorporated a way you can send supporting documents if you choose to do so. **Reports are due by November 1.**

If you have questions about the report or about using the on-line template, please email my colleague Lauren Barva at [lauren.barva@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lauren.barva@waterboards.ca.gov) or call her at (916) 319-8264.

Once again, thank you for your contribution to intelligent, creative and cooperative management of this drought. We're all in this together.

Sincerely,

Michael Patrick George

