

EX PARTE REPORT
Kings River Water Coalition

The introductory meeting was held with State Board member, Joaquin Esquivel and representatives of the Kings River Water Coalition.

The Kings River attendees were Mark McKean, President; Casey Creamer, Manager; and Bill Thomas, counsel for Kings River.

Board representatives were Phil Wyles, Emel Wadhvani and Darrin Polhemus.

Casey described that the Kings Coalition has 5000 members farming over 800,000 acres and is the principal district in the Tulare Lake Basin and has been a principal entity dealing with the implementation of the ILRP.

The Kings representatives discussed the timing of the proposed order and problems with requiring monitoring of every drinking water well. The coalition has difficulty in getting total compliance, particularly from small and ethnic minority farmers.

The Kings also addressed the strict requirement of reaching out to every entity in their native language.

Data confidentiality and submitting data as to "secondary harvest" was also discussed.

The Kings' representatives indicated that they support the comments advanced by the socially disadvantaged farmers and the direct harvestors.

Concern was expressed as to the uncertainty concerning surface water programs which are being directed to a new expert panel.

The group also raised concerns over the uncertainty surrounding the subsequent appeal of the Tulare Lake Basin order.