

RESPONSE TO WRITTEN COMMENT

on Tentative Resolution:

Concurrence with Findings of Sonoma Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan

Water Board staff received one written comment via email from Mr. Fred Allebach (private citizen) on the Tentative Resolution. The full comment is provided below.

1. Fred Allebach

Comment: “My comment has to do with finding an absence of discussion concerning Sonoma Valley groundwater quality vis-a-vis arsenic, boron, etc. in the Tentative Resolution. This may not be the right forum to bring this up, yet, the EPA has cited various Valley water companies for too high a level of arsenic and many deep wells produce water that is undrinkable, and that concentrates boron in the surface soil. I see that groundwater quality in the Sonoma Valley has a wide spectrum of issues and I would like to see these acknowledged and addressed, either here or on another appropriate management forum.”

Response: The Recycled Water Policy states that constituents other than salt and nutrients may be addressed in a salt and nutrient management plan if they adversely affect groundwater quality. While boron and arsenic are a water quality concern in the Sonoma Valley Subbasin, the Sonoma Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP) focused only on total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrate. Although the SNMP did not address these constituents, the Sonoma Valley Groundwater Management Program regularly monitors and evaluates groundwater quality (including boron and arsenic). We encourage you to engage in this comprehensive local planning process.