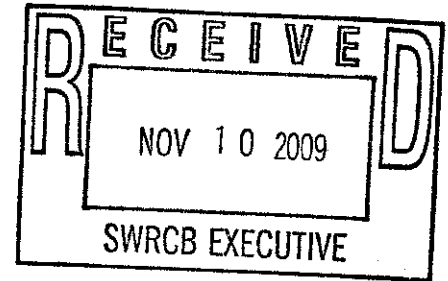


**U
W** UNITED
WINEGROWERS
for Sonoma County

November 12, 2009

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
for Charles R. Hoppin, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814



RE: 11/18/09 Russian River Frost Protection Workshop

Dear Chairman Hoppin and Members of the Board:

We are writing in support of a combined Sonoma/Mendocino County landowners proposal for a Russian River Frost Program.

We recognize the many complexities involved, both in the provision by grape growers of frost protection and in the process your Board must follow to balance the needs of competing interests.

All parties seek the same goal: to provide real on the ground improvements that help fish. The proposal encourages broad participation by landowners. It creates a local framework to coordinate frost protection activities and oversight. It sets forth a series of actions to add storage, change out-dated infrastructure and implement practical solutions to avert future problems.

The proposal before you is a good start.

We recognize efforts to investigate unlawful activities are part of any process going forward. The two incidents still under review are from a very difficult frost year in 2008. Action has been taken to fix these problems. The Russian River Frost Program provides your Board a new mechanism to work with landowners across multiple watersheds in the two counties.

On behalf of our winery and grower members, thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Patrick Campbell
Secretary