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**TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM**

Date: June 13, 2014  
To: Darrin Polhemus, State Water Resources Control Board  
From: Dr. Stuart W. Styles, ITRC Director  
Sarah Crable, ITRC Engineer  
**Subject: Expert Panel Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2014**

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**State Water Resources Control Board Nitrate Expert Panel**

Expert Panel Chair, Dr. Charles Burt called the meeting of the Expert Panel to order at approximately 8:40 a.m. on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 in Tulare.

**1. Introduction – Expert Panel Members**

- Dr. Lowell Zelinski
- Till Angermann
- Dr. Charles Burt
- James duBois
- Bill Brush
- Robert Hutmacher
- Daniel Munk
- Mark McKean

**2. Expert Panel Charge.....Dr. Charles Burt, Panel Chair**

- Public comment process

**3. Clarification Item #1..... Joe Karkoski,  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

- Explained history on Central Valley Waste Discharge Requirements
- Explained sections of the Central Valley Waste Discharge Requirements in further detail
- Commented on Public Records Act
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

4. **Clarification Item #2..... Clay Rodgers,  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**
  - Commented on groundwater monitoring
  - Commented on Dairy Waste Discharge Requirements
  - Answered questions from Expert Panel members
  
5. **Discussion by Expert Panel Members**
  - Comments by Dr. Charles Burt
  - Comments by Till Angermann
  - Comments by Bill Brush
  - Comments by Dr. Robert Hutmacher
  - Comments by Daniel Munk
  - Comments by Dr. Lowell Zelinski
  
6. **Public Commenter #1 ..... Casey Creamer, Kings River Water Quality Coalition**
  - Commented on Management Practices Evaluation Program (MPEP)
  - Commented on Certified Crop Advisor trainings
  - Commented on grower requirements under the Central Valley Waste Discharge Requirements
  - Answered questions from Expert Panel members
  
7. **Public Commenter #2 ..... Keith Freitas, Lemon Farmer**
  - Commented on regulations being formed with scientific base
  
8. **Public Commenter #3 ..... Stephen Pavich, Farmer and Agricultural Consultant**
  - Commented on best management practices
  - Commented on yields in relation to regulation
  - Answered questions from Expert Panel members
  
9. **Public Commenter #4 ..... Darlene Din, Agriculture Land Use Consultant**
  - Commented on constructed wetlands used for surface water treatment and subsequent formation of wildlife habitat
  - Commented on technical outreach to growers in response to regulations
  - Answered questions from Expert Panel members
  
10. **Public Commenter #5 ..... Abby Taylor-Silva,  
Grower Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties**
  - Commented on Nitrate Hazard Index background and use in Central Coast Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements
  - Commented on Sustainable Groundwater Management Program and groundwater recharge
  - Answered questions from Expert Panel members

**11. Public Commenter #6 ..... Kay Mercer, KMI**

- Commented on intellectual property of management practices of growers
- Commented on grower compliance uniformity in relation to Public Records Act
- Commented on field inspection prioritization
- Commented on distribution uniformity tests
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

**12. Public Commenter #7 .....Parry Klassen, East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition**

- Commented on trend monitoring and Waste Discharge Requirements
- Commented on Management Practices Evaluation Program (MPEP)
- Commented on Nutrient Management Plan
- Commented on identifying indicators of nitrate uptake or leaching
- Commented on variability in the agriculture system
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

**13. Clarification Item #3..... Clay Rodgers,  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

- Answered questions from Expert Panel members
- Commented on background of monitoring requirements
- Commented on Management Practices Evaluation Program
- Commented on statistical error associated with groundwater monitoring data

**14. Clarification Item #4..... Darrin Polhemus,  
State Water Resources Control Board**

- Commented on purposes of groundwater monitoring in relation to management practice and resource management
- Comments on non-point source policy requirements
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

**15. Public Commenter #8 .....John Schaap, Kern River Watershed Coalition**

- Commented on requirements of Management Practices Evaluation Program
- Commented on monitoring well requirements of the Management Practice Evaluation Program
- Commented on cost of carrying out Management Practices Evaluation Program
- Answered questions from Expert Panel members

**16. Clarification Item #5.....Joe Karkoski,  
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**

- Commented on grower reporting requirements

**17. Expert Panel Discussion**

- Each panel member brainstormed five or less items that should be reported by the farmer to the Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Dr. Charles Burt adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:30 p.m. on May 7, 2014. The next scheduled Expert Panel meeting will be held on May 9, 2014 in Sacramento.