



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Central Valley Region



**Winston H. Hickox**  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

**Robert Schneider, Chair**

**Gray Davis**  
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1 July 2003

***MERCURY OFFSET PROJECTS, SACRAMENTO REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT, SACRAMENTO REGIONAL COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT, SACRAMENTO COUNTY***

We have reviewed your letter, dated 14 March 2003, in which you asked Regional Board and State Board staff to collaborate to identify projects that may be suitable for inclusion in a mercury offset program and to identify projects that may not be suitable. The enclosed memorandum describes possible projects that could be part of an offset program and would benefit the mercury TMDL currently in development.

This memorandum was developed for discussion purposes only. It should not be deemed an endorsement of any particular suite of projects or individual components, but only some ideas to consider. Other projects could be proposed that also may be considered acceptable. Additionally, a list of projects that staff currently considers unsuitable for offset credits is also provided. Further, comments received during the public review of the proposed offset program will be considered by Regional Board staff prior to the Regional Board's consideration of adoption of the offset program.

Please include a discussion of costs in your offset program proposal. This should include, but not be limited to, a discussion comparing cost estimates for the proposed offset projects with alternative cost estimates for implementing mercury load reduction at the wastewater treatment plant.

We look forward to meeting with SRCSD staff at 9:00 a.m. on 15 July 2003 to further discuss these items. Should you have any questions, please contact Karen Niiya of my staff at (916) 255-3362.

PATRICIA LEARY  
Senior Engineer  
NPDES Section

Enclosure

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***California Environmental Protection Agency***



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