BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C.

In re: Buena Vista Rancheria) Wastewater Treatment Plant)	NPDES Appeal Nos. 10-05 – 10-07 & 10-13
NPDES Permit No. CA 0049675)	

EPA REGION IX MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE RESPONSE TO PETITIONERS' MOTIONS TO STAY ISSUANCE OF NOTICE TO PROCEED

Region IX of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("Region") hereby requests an extension of time to file its response to the Motions to Stay Issuance of a Notice to Proceed filed by Petitioner Amador County on July 15, 2011 and by Petitioner Ione Band of Miwok Indians on July 19, 2011. The Region respectfully requests an extension to file its response until Friday, August 19, 2011, which is 32 and 21 days, respectfully, after the date the responses are originally due (July 25, 2011 for Amador County motion, and July 29, 2011 for Ione Band motion). At that time, in an effort to conserve agency resources, the Region will file one response to the motions as they both concern the Notice to Proceed and raise similar issues.

The basis for this request is the current absence of relevant staff working on the Region's response to the appeals, which has reduced the available time to draft and engage in internal review of the Region's response to the Motions to Stay. The relevant Region staff are either currently out of the office on vacation or soon leaving for vacation, but will be returning in time to complete the Region's response by the requested extension date of August 19, 2011. Given these schedules, the Region is concerned that it may not have sufficient time for effective internal agency coordination and review prior to the filing deadline.

In its July 5, 2011 letter to the Board (and copied to all Petitioners), the Region stated it intended to issue a Notice to Proceed pursuant to the governing Memorandum of Agreement under the National Historic Preservation Act no sooner than 21 days from the date of the letter (i.e. July 26, 2011). In view of the Petitioners' Motions to Stay and this request for an extension to respond to those motions, the Region will issue such Notice to Proceed no earlier than 21 days after filing its response to the two motions and in that response, will address the Region's view on the appropriate way to proceed with the Notice to Proceed.

The Region has contacted all Petitioners to inform them of the Region's intent to seek an extension of time until August 19, 2011. Counsel for Petitioners Amador County, Friends of Amador County, and the Ione Band of Miwok Indians do not oppose the Region's motion for an extension of time. The Region has not yet received a response to an email sent to Petitioner Glenn Villa, Jr..

For the foregoing reasons, the Region respectfully requests that its Motion for Extension of Time to respond to the Petitioners' motions to stay be granted and that the EAB extend the deadline for the Region's response to August 19, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

July 21, 2011

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX's Motion for Extension of Time to File Response to Petitioners' Motions to Stay (signed copy), was filed electronically with the Environmental Appeals Board with copies e-mailed to:

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July 21, 2011

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