



State Water Resources Control Board



Winston H. Hickox
*Secretary for
Environmental
Protection*

Division of Water Rights
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Gray Davis
Governor

FEB 18 2000

In Reply Refer to:363:
CAR:262.0(40-03-07)

Santa Margarita Ranch
c/o Mr. Rob Rossi
750 Pismo Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 23401

Dear Mr. Rossi:

WATER RIGHTS COMPLAINT REGARDING DIVERSION OF WATER FROM UPPER SALINAS WATERSHED, SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

The Division of Water Rights (Division) received your Answer to Complaint on November 8, 1999. Your Answer was addressed to Mr. Murray who, unfortunately, has left the Division. As Chief of the Division's Complaint Unit, I will be taking over this project. We recently received an additional complaint against the Santa Margarita Ranch vineyard project, filed by the California Department of Fish and Game. It does not appear that you were sent a copy of this complaint so I am enclosing a copy for your reference.

We understand from your Answer that Santa Margarita Ranch would be amenable to providing more detailed information in a site visit. Therefore, I would like to schedule a site visit to assist in determining resolution of the complaints on file with the Division. I would like to meet with you or a representative on March 29, 2000, to inspect the following aspects of your project:

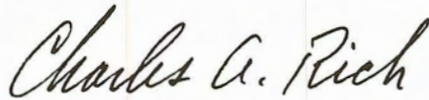
- the geography of Santa Margarita Ranch
- the locations of existing water wells
- areas that have historically been irrigated
- locations where new wells may be drilled
- areas that are planned to be irrigated
- drillers' well logs for all water wells on the ranch
- information on the use of the ranch wells or other sources of water
- geologic information that you may have concerning the ranch, and
- pumping test(s) that may have been performed to develop information on well yields

Since there is a lot of ground to cover in this visit I believe that we should start early in the morning. Please let me know a good landmark where we can meet. If this date does not work for you, let us know as soon as possible. Because there are multiple interested parties in this complaint we would like to include them in the site visit so that all questions and concerns can be represented. Please let us know if you have any objections to this.

FEB 18 2000

Please contact Cori Condon at (916) 657-2045 or myself at (916) 657-1945 as soon as possible so that we can work out these details. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Rich, Chief
Complaint Unit

Enclosure – DFG Complaint

cc: Mr. Bob Baiocchi
CSPA
P.O. Box 357
Quincy, CA 95971

Mr. Pat Veersart
Environmental Center of
San Luis Obispo
P.O. Box 1104
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

Mr. Brian Hunter
CA Department of Fish and Game
P.O. Box 47
Yountville, CA 94599

Ms. Patricia Anderson
CA Department of Fish and Game
20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100
Monterey, CA 93940

Mr. Paul P. Spaulding III
Landels, Ripley &
Diamond Hills Plaza
350 The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94105-1250

Ms. Jude Rock
P.O. Box 486
Santa Margarita, CA 93453

Mr. Otto Schmidt
P.O. Box 9
Santa Margarita, CA 93453

Mr. Mark Hutchinson
Dept. of Planning and Building
County Government Center
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Ms. Tara Mueller
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1515 Clay Street
Oakland, CA 94612