



# California Water Quality Monitoring Council



**Matthew Rodriguez**  
*Secretary for  
Environmental Protection*

**Jonathan Bishop & Paul Helliker, Co-Chairs**  
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**Edmund G. Brown Jr.**  
*Governor*



**John Laird**  
*Secretary for  
Natural Resources*

October 9, 2014

## Monitoring Council Members

Jonathan Bishop  
*Environmental Protection  
Agency*

Paul Helliker  
*Natural Resources Agency*

Bruce H. Burton, PE  
*California Drinking  
Water Program*

Armand Ruby  
*Stormwater*

Mike Connor  
*Publicly Owned  
Treatment Works*

Parry Klassen  
*Agriculture*

Beth Christman  
*Citizen Monitoring*

Sara Aminzadeh  
*Public*

Stephen Weisberg  
*Scientific Community*

Sarge Green  
*Water Supply*

Mr. Matthew Rodriguez  
Secretary for Environmental Protection  
California Environmental Protection Agency

Mr. John Laird  
Secretary for Natural Resources  
California Natural Resources Agency

## WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL PURSUANT TO SENATE BILL (SB) 1070 (KEHOE, 2006): REPLACEMENT MEMBER RECOMMENDATION

Dear Secretaries Rodriguez and Laird:

On November 26, 2007, the Secretaries for Environmental Protection and Natural Resources signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing the California Water Quality Monitoring Council (Council) as required by SB 1070 (Kehoe, 2006). Following the signing of the MOU, we were directed to develop a potential list of Council members, which were presented to the Agency Secretaries in April 2008. The list of members was approved in May and the Council had its first meeting in June. Pursuant to the legislation, the Monitoring Council developed and on December 1, 2008 submitted to the Agency Secretaries recommendations for maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of existing water quality data collection and dissemination, and for ensuring that collected data are maintained and available for use by decision makers and the public. Also pursuant to the legislation, the Monitoring Council developed and on December 28, 2010 submitted to the Agency secretaries a recommended Comprehensive Monitoring Program Strategy for California to guide the Monitoring Council's activities into the future.

One of the ten positions on the Monitoring Council represents California's drinking water program. That position is currently held by Bruce Burton, Chief of the Northern California Drinking Water Field Operations Branch. On July 1 of this year, the drinking water program moved from the Department of Public Health to become the new Division of Drinking Water at the State Water Resources Control Board. Cindy Forbes, Deputy Director for the State Water Board's Division of Drinking Water, has requested that Karen Larsen be

appointed to the drinking water position on the Monitoring Council. Ms. Larsen is the Assistant Deputy Director for the Program Management Branch within the Division of Drinking Water. Of the Division's three branches, the Program Management Branch is the only branch with a statewide focus. As such, Ms. Larsen's appointment to the Monitoring Council will provide broad-based representation from California's drinking water program.

Karen Larsen's career with the California Water Boards began in 1999. Over the years, she has worked on a variety of programs including water quality monitoring and assessment, local watershed stewardship grant programs, total maximum daily loads, and water quality control planning. From 2010 to 2014, Ms. Larsen served as the Director of the State Water Board's Office of Information Management and Analysis where she managed the development and maintenance of the Water Boards' information management systems (including the California Environmental Data Exchange Center or CEDEN) and worked closely with the Water Boards' Chief Information Officer to deliver useful products to meet program needs. She also managed California's statewide Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), advanced the state's monitoring coordination through the California Water Quality Monitoring Council, and developed policies for protecting healthy streams. In her current position, she manages the states drinking water regulation development, oversight of local drinking water regulatory programs, recycled water permitting, emergency response, and the state's environmental laboratory accreditation program.

To ensure that the Monitoring Council continues to move forward to implement the requirements of SB 1070, we would appreciate your decision regarding the proposed Council Member replacement as outlined above by November 10, 2014. We will assume that you concur with this change if we have not received a response by this date. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Jon Bishop at (916) 341-5820 or [Jonathan.Bishop@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Bishop@waterboards.ca.gov) or Paul Helliker at (916) 653-8045 or [Paul.Helliker@water.ca.gov](mailto:Paul.Helliker@water.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Monitoring Council Co-Chair  
Representing Cal/EPA



Paul Helliker, Deputy Director  
Delta & Statewide Water Management  
Department of Water Resources  
Monitoring Council Co-Chair  
Representing the Natural Resources Agency

cc: Members of the California Water Quality Monitoring Council  
Karen Larsen, Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board  
Bruce Burton, Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board  
Tom Howard, Executive Director, State Water Resources Control Board