Message

From: karll@csufresno.edu [karll@csufresno.edu]
Sent: 3/11/2019 4:30:37 PM
To: Smith, DavidW [Smith.DavidW@epa.gov]
CC: adam.laputz@waterboards.ca.gov; Sarge Green [sgreen@csufresno.edu]
Subject: RE: EPA Revised Water Quality Trading Policy and Federal Water Reuse Action Plan

Good Morning David:
I definitely will get back to you but I must first digest the information you have provided to me. If is okay with you I also would like to include a colleague, Sarge Green, in the discussion.
Karl

From: Smith, DavidW [mailto:Smith.DavidW@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2019 10:33 AM
To: karll@csufresno.edu
Cc: adam.laputz@waterboards.ca.gov
Subject: EPA Revised Water Quality Trading Policy and Federal Water Reuse Action Plan

Good morning Dr. Longley:
Per the voice mail I just left for you, I am writing to draw your attention to two related federal initiatives that I thought might be of interest to you, and about which you might be able to help guide us as we develop our next steps. As I mentioned, Adam Laputz expressed interest in discussing these ideas and we are setting up a meeting with him and his colleagues in the coming weeks.

Water Quality Trading Policy
First, I am pleased to share with you a new policy memorandum issued February 6th by EPA Headquarters that will help states, tribes, territories and stakeholders use market-based approaches to reduce excess nutrients and other pollutants, and improve water quality in their communities.
EPA has supported the use of water quality trading, offsets and similar programs to help reduce pollution control costs and achieve compliance with Clean Water Act requirements for many years. This memo is intended to provide additional flexibility to assist the broader use of market-, incentive-, and community-based programs to supplement existing water quality improvement efforts.

EPA's actions are part of a larger multi-agency collaboration with stakeholders across the country to better coordinate and focus federal resources and authorities to address the nation's most challenging water resource concerns, including excess nutrients in waterways and groundwater.
This memo is an excellent follow-up to our Summit in October 2018 where we discussed many of the environmental challenges facing the agriculture community. Last month, Regional Administrator Mike Stoker met with CDFA leaders to explore how we might engage more directly to assist agricultural partners, and CDFA expressed interest in further exploring trading (or innovative financing approaches) that might assist agricultural producers. As I mentioned on the phone, I am hoping you might have some ideas to share about how we might best assist our state, local, and producer partners in taking advantage of these funding strategies in ways that make sense for the Central Valley.

Water Reuse Action Plan
Last week, Assistant Administrator for Water David Ross announced in San Francisco a commitment by several federal agencies, led by EPA, to develop a Federal Water Reuse Action Plan intended to help align and leverage federal efforts to help make water available that is otherwise unavailable today, while protecting public health and the environment. We are currently working, in particular, with DOE, USDA, DOI (including the Bureau of Reclamation and the FWS), FEMA, and other federal agencies with interests and investments in water reuse. I am attaching a draft framework document that lays out some of the preliminary thinking concerning this Action Plan. Based on extensive initial outreach to a host of stakeholders, we drafted a broad initial framework. We cast the initial scope very wide, and understand we will need to

significantly tighten its focus and clarify specific actions we and our federal partners should and will take in the short and longer timeframes to advance smart water use and reuse. As with the Trading Policy, your name came to mind as someone who could offer sage advice regarding the overall scope and action priorities in the plan.

I would be grateful if you would take a look at these documents, and if you can spare a bit of time, we'd like to set up a call or meeting to discuss your ideas about how to proceed with these efforts and who we should talk to as we develop our plans and actions. Thank you in advance for your attention and help!
Best regards
Dave Smith

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