

Active Participation in CV-SALTS

The participation of all significant stakeholders and geographies is critical to a responsive and robust salt and nitrate management planning process. Recently the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has asked the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) and the Central Valley Salinity Coalition (CVSC) Chairs for help characterizing participation. Because both membership in CVSC and representation at meetings can take many forms it is difficult to write rigid rules to define participation. Because some permits and other documents require participation in a region-wide salt and nutrient management plan (SNMP) effort the CV-SALTS Executive Committee should provide guidance or factors, however final regulatory permit compliance is the purview of the RWQCB.

Coalition Membership

The CVSC was formed to provide a method for stakeholders to financially participate in CV-SALTS and be represented in an organized manner. CVSC believes that both financial and process representation are critical to participation and success of CV-SALTS.

The CVSC holds that membership in the CVSC has and should be considered a primary indicator of participation. We have documented the Members of CVSC in accordance with its bylaws. We maintain an accurate listing of members on our website at <http://cvsalinity.org/index.php/background/1-background/6-membership> or on a link directly from the home page. Some CVSC members collaborate by industry or among their membership and while individual members not listed on the CVSC membership roster they are represented and participating in the CVSC and CV-SALTS process through their association or industry group CVSC member. Should the Board have any questions about membership, or participation of a CVSC member, they should inquire of the Chairman or Executive Director of CVSC.

Non-Member Active Participation

If a stakeholder or the RWQCB wishes to verify active participation of entities who are not CVSC members, stakeholders or the RWQCB should request a letter of participation from the Executive Committee in writing or at a regular administrative meeting. The Executive Committee may provide a letter indicating active participation and should consider the following indicators of participation, but may include others as approved by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is not required to make a determination and may elect not to forward a letter to the RWQCB or stakeholder. If the Executive Committee intends to submit a letter it should do so within 60 days or on the timeline needed by the requestor, if possible. Regulatory standing or permit compliance determinations will be rendered by the RWQCB.

Participation Indicators the Executive Committee and RWQCB should consider

Attendance and Engagement

All committees of CV-SALTS track attendance at meetings and the rosters are provided on the website. Frequent attendance and engagement in committees and meetings can be an indicator of participation. Many parties such as dairy and wastewater treatment collaborate to provide industry representation at CV-SALTS activities and meetings. Additional engagement indicators would be participants who chair

committees, contribute significantly to subcommittee work, or make presentations to outside groups on CV-SALTS.

In-Kind Contributions

CV-SALTS should also consider in-kind contributions or other support to CV-SALTS as an indicator of participation and especially those who provide studies that are in the CV-SALTS Work Plan or work product that further the Work Plan studies, monitoring or material data approved by the Executive or Technical Committee or provides material technical or policy review support.