



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR



MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

June 9, 2016

Amanda Frye
12714 Hilltop Drive
Redlands, CA 92373

Dear Ms. Frye:

INQUIRY REGARDING NESTLE WATERS OF NORTH AMERICA

Chair Felicia Marcus of the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) asked me to respond to your email dated May 6, 2016 inquiring about the water rights of Nestle Waters of North America (Nwana) in the San Bernardino National Forest. You ask whether Nwana has water rights, and if any rights exist, whether they are for surface water or groundwater.

Our Division of Water Rights (Division) records show that the Nwana diversions have been reported to us as groundwater extractions and diversions from springs. Extraction of percolating ground water is not regulated by the Board. Some spring water diversions are conducted under water rights claims that are not regulated by the Board. The Board, however, may evaluate claims of right.

The Division received complaints regarding the basis of Nwana's water rights and bottling operations during last year's drought. Division staff requested Nwana to submit documents supporting its water right claims and they have provided the information. We are reviewing that information now. Once our investigation is completed, the Division will issue a Report of Investigation and we will provide you with a copy.

If you have any questions, please contact Victor Vasquez of my staff at (916) 323-9407 or Victor.Vasquez@waterboards.ca.gov. Written correspondence should be addressed as follows:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Attn: Victor Vasquez
PO Box: 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John O'Hagan".

John O'Hagan, Assistant Deputy Director
Division of Water Rights

FELICIA MARCUS, CHAIR | THOMAS HOWARD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ec: John Laird, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency
john.laird@resources.ca.gov

Ian James, Desert Sun
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