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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

March 11, 2010

Members of the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
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Members of the Board:

SUBJECT: TASK FORCE REVIEW OF AUDIT REPORT

This letter follows my USTCF Task Force summary presentation of February 16, during which I conveyed the Task Force intention to meet one final time after the completion of the auditors report to review its findings and confirm the expected alignment between our respective examinations.

As you are aware, the audit contractor had time and resources not available to the Task Force. This fact recognized, I'm very pleased that our reports largely differed only in terms of a degree of detail. In many respects, the issues identified by the auditor were those illuminated in the Task Force Final Report of January 25, 2010. We believe the detailed recommendations described in the audit will be a valuable tool to those working to improve USTCF and UST Program performance.

A number of Task Force participants will continue to serve the USTCF as members of the new Advisory Group. Near the close of yesterday's meeting it was acknowledged that the Advisory Group will utilize the auditor's report as one of their guides during their preliminary meetings as they chart next steps for the near term. I have every confidence that those Task Force members continuing on to the Advisory Group will remain an invaluable resource to the program.

On behalf of all Task Force members, thank you again for the opportunity to serve.

Very truly,

Markus B. Niebanck, PG
DFA USTCF Task Force Chair

California Environmental Protection Agency