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February 2, 2011

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office MS-4
Re: Docket No. 11-1EP-1A
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Re: Docket No. 11-1EP-1A/Staff Workshop on California Economic Outlook

Dear Commissioners:

The California Farm Bureau Federation appreciated the opportunity to convey the unique aspects of the agricultural economy in California at the January 19th Staff Workshop on the California Economic Outlook. As you consider information drawn from the workshop for inclusion in the 2011 EPR Process, I would recommend the use of "The Measure of California Agriculture" published August 2009 by the University of California Agricultural Issues Center as an important reference that assists in informing the discussion about expectations about California agriculture. It provides relevant data from various sources and is updated periodically.

As was noted at the workshop and is confirmed by The Measure of California Agriculture publication, agriculture plays a vital role in California's economy. Of key importance is the economic value added by agriculture which translates into a 1.94 employment multiplier effect. The steady vitality of agriculture to California's economy is remarkable given the continued pressures to encroach upon the water and land resources necessary to provide a reliable supply of food and fiber. California agriculture's ability to identify innovative approaches for meeting economic opportunities and adapt to changing market demand are key to making California agriculture a world leader. That innovative attitude is indicative of the sector's willingness to embrace measures that more effectively and efficiently use energy and water resources for crop production.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Norene Mills

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