



## RESOLUTION

Whereas, the State Water Resources Control Board's Draft Substitute Environmental Document (SED) proposes to require the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced Rivers release 35 percent of unimpaired flow from February to June of each year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirements will create "significant and unavoidable" impacts to the economy, agriculture, and groundwater basins in Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Merced Counties; and

WHEREAS, those impacts include approximately \$69 million in economic impacts in an economically distressed region of our state; and

WHEREAS, the impacts result in a loss of \$4.5 million in energy revenue to the Modesto, Merced and Turlock Irrigation districts only to be offset by rate increases to all power users in Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced Counties; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirement would fallow approximately 128,295 acres of prime farm land and result in the loss of over 800 family farms in the region; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirement will result in over-drafted groundwater basins; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1.5% of the jobs in the three county area will be permanently lost and up to 3.1% of related sector jobs will be lost during drought periods; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirements will not provide measurable benefits to native fish populations or promote ecosystem restoration; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirement ignores non-flow alternatives that are less costly and more effective; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirement compromises attaining the dual goals of ecosystem restoration and water supply reliability under SBx7-7.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the State Water Resources Control Board should pursue a comprehensive solution that is consistent with the timing of the overall comprehensive Delta planning process and which takes into account the potential impact on hydroelectric energy generation. This solution must prioritize non-flow measures to protect native fish species, such as predation reduction programs, before demanding flow increases that would threaten the economic vitality of these California counties, cities, and small family farms.

*Henry de la Cruz de la Cruz*  
(Signature and Entity)

*3-13-13*  
(Date)