Public Hearing (3/20/13)
Bay-Delta Plan SED
Deadline: 3/29/13 by 12 noon

# RESOLUTION NO. 2013-10

## RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LIVINGSTON OPPOSING THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD SUBSTITUTE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT REGARDING POTENTIAL CHANGES TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY – SACRAMENTO/SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

**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 each year; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed requirement will create "**significant and unavoidable**" impacts to the economy, agriculture, and the groundwater basin used by the residents and business owners of the City of Livingston; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed requirement will result in an over-draft of the groundwater basin used by the City of Livingston and its residents, which rely exclusively on groundwater for their drinking supplies; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Livingston and the County of Merced face significant challenges with poverty, unemployment and foreclosures, and the City of Livingston's economic development efforts benefit significantly from competition between investor-owned utilities and the Merced Irrigation District; and

**WHEREAS**, the adverse impacts of the proposed SED include approximately $69 million in annual losses to this economically distressed region of our state, including approximately $23.5 million in annual losses to the people that live and work in and around the City of Livingston; 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**, approximately 460 jobs will be permanently lost including 160 in and around the City of Livingston; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Livingston opposes the proposed requirements contained in the State Water Resources Control Board's draft SED.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the State Water Resources Control Board should pursue a comprehensive solution that prioritizes non-flow measures to protect native fish species, such as predation reduction programs, before demanding flow increases that would threaten the

economic vitality of already distressed people, businesses, and small family farms located in and around the City of Livingston.

Passed and adopted this 19th day of March, 2013, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Espinoza and Council Members Mendoza, Samra, Sicairos and Soria
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Rodrigo Espinoza, Mayor
of the City of Livingston

ATTEST:

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly introduced, passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Livingston this 19th day of March, 2013.

Antonio Silva, City Clerk
of the City of Livingston