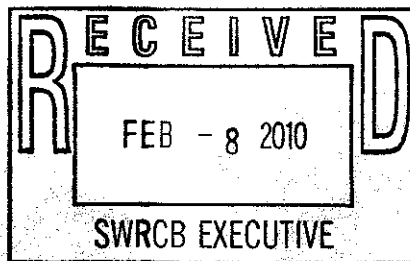


February 3, 2010



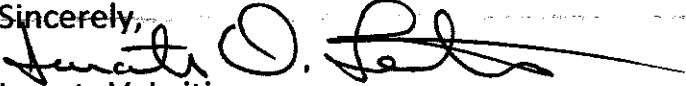
State Water Resources Control Board:

When I bought my house in the Westchester Subdivision in Bakersfield, the Kern River flowed within walking distance and was a factor in my decision to buy. There was a nice riparian habitat mere blocks from my house. Now there is a mutilated dry riverbed.

Must we ruin all our rivers for the sake of economics? I was born and raised in Sacramento. Many days of my youth were spent on the American River. It was a great place to go swim, fish and have fun. This river has suffered mightily also. Where stripers, steelhead and salmon once ruled, there are now mostly suckers and northern chub (squawfish).

Bakersfield needs for the Kern River to flow through it. There are many economic and environmental benefits to be gained from it. The waters won't be "wasted" as eventually they will flow into the aquifer where the farmers will get to it anyway.

I strongly support Bakersfield's application to run the unappropriated water down the historic Kern River channel.

Sincerely,  
  
Imants V. Leitis

**Imants Leitis**  
2454 Spruce St.  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Through the State Water Resources Control Board  
... to find ...  
... hard to support ...  
... the unapproved water  
down the stone ... channel

**Imants Lettis**  
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RIVER