



TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT

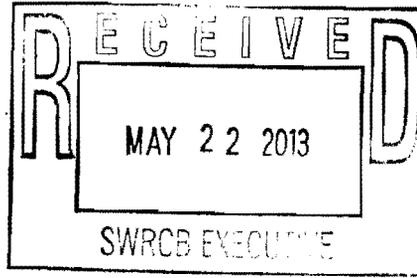
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May 18, 2013

Thomas Howard, Executive Director
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



RE: Request for Modification of State Water Resources Control Board Target Elevation for Pinecrest Lake by Labor Day; Spring Gap-Stanislaus Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2130

Dear Mr. Howard:

I am John Maciel, a Board of Director with Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD). For over 150 years the water supply needs of Tuolumne County have been met by water flowing from both Lyons Reservoir and Pinecrest Lake. The existing ditch system which currently serves 44,000 or 90% of Tuolumne County citizens, dates back to the 1850's when mining camps and mines supported the county.

Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) has had water rights for water out of Pinecrest Lake and Lyons Reservoir dating back to 1856. These water rights were transferred by contract to Tuolumne County in 1983 and the County transferred to the newly formed Tuolumne Utilities District in 1992.

In 2009 the State Water Resource Control Board issued order WR.2009-0039 for certification of the PG&E Spring Gap Stanislaus Hydroelectric Project. This new certification set a lake level for Pinecrest Reservoir that didn't exist previously. PG&E and TUD have requested the State Water Board to amend the 2009 certification to modify the target Labor Day Lake level on Pinecrest Reservoir on water type, to 5606 ft. in a wet year and 5600 ft. in a dry year. This request is based on the Pinecrest Reservoir Lake Level Study Report, which was prepared by PG&E to comply with the 2009 certification. This study supports PG&E and TUD's request and need for water during summer months. Per the report, the recreation activities would still be able to occur, with minimal disruption. It is hard for me to believe that the Water Board is putting recreation activities over domestic consumers, especially when these consumers already are conserving water and meet the 2020 water goals.

I hope the State Water Resource Control Board supports PG&E's request for the modification. Tuolumne County residents need peace of mind on their water supply. I ask that you consider the economic health of Tuolumne County in making your decision or recommendation to the State Board. Pinecrest Lake water supply predictability can be achieved for TUD customers, PG&E, the State Board and recreation at the lake, by approval of the modified lake level requested by TUD and PG&E. Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Maciel, TUD Board of Director

CC: Governor, Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Tom Berryhill, California Senate
Franklin Bigelow, California Assemblyman