

October 17, 2012

Sent to: [jparks@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jparks@waterboards.ca.gov)  
State Water Resources Control Board  
Attn: Jeffrey Parks  
PO Box 2000  
Sacramento, CA 95812

**Re: "Comment Letter – Pinecrest Conditions Workshop"**

Dear Mr. Parks,

In October 2012, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) held a staff workshop in the Tuolumne County Board chambers. We are responding to the call for comments.

It was noted that 95% of Tuolumne Utility District's (TUD's) water supply is derived from its contract with PG&E for water delivered from Pinecrest Lake and Lyons Reservoir. TUD has *no alternate source* of water supply for the community. The current system of water supply has been relied upon for over 100 years to sustain the people and businesses of the county. Therefore, the Water Board's decision on this matter will literally control the future of water supply including the health, safety and economic vitality of our community for years to come.

First and foremost, the water from this system is relied upon for the ***consumptive needs*** of the county's residents. The May 2012 California Department of Finance report for Tuolumne County shows projected gradual increase in population, not a decrease. It is essential that this system allows for flexible and predictable management of lake levels at Pinecrest and Lyons to balance all of the respective interests, including those of habitat and recreation.

We respectfully ask your Board to understand and act upon the needs of the entire county and TUD as the primary public water agency in the county before making a final decision. The most significant opposition to allowing TUD and PG&E the flexibility of lowering the lake level has been based on concerns of persons based in and around Pinecrest Lake itself.

Therefore, we hope that you reconsider and modify the target Labor Day lake level elevation based on water year type as follows:

- 5,606 feet in wet years;
- 5,604 feet in normal-wet years; and
- 5,600 feet in normal-dry and dry years

Respectfully submitted,

Bob and Kathleen Haff  
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