



April 27, 2015

Mr. David Kirn
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Dear Mr. Kirn

The South Yuba River Citizens League (SYRCL) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Tentative Order (NPDES Permit No. CA0081621) for the Donner Summit Public Utility District Wastewater Treatment Plant. While we were not able to conduct a thorough review of the Tentative Order, it is apparent that there was a tremendous amount of thought and detail that went into its preparation.

We request that discharge of treated wastewater to land irrigation occur as early in the year as is possible. The Tentative Order, Section III. DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS, Part C states that wastewater cannot be discharged to land until after June 30. We request that this timeline be reviewed with the Donner Summit Public Utility District to ensure that it does not represent an unnecessary or counter-productive constraint. In the interest of protecting the South Yuba River during summer low flows, we would like to see DSPUD have maximum flexibility in switching to land irrigation as early as possible, and especially before June 30 during periods of drought such as this year.

SYRCL and our members are appreciative of the work undertaken by the water board and the Donner Summit Public Utility District to prepare this document and to improve water quality conditions in the South Yuba River. Please keep us on your contact list for updates on this process. We applaud the new water treatment facility and will continue to communicate with the Donner Summit Public Utility District. I can be reached at rachel@syrc.org or 530-265-5961 ext. 205.

Sincerely,

Rachel A. Hutchinson
River Science Director
South Yuba River Citizens League