

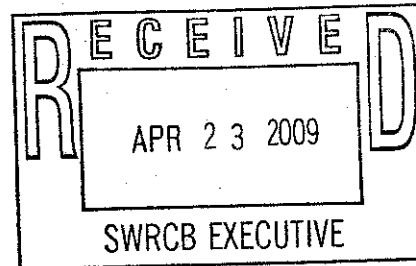
Mendocino County

**Russian River Flood Control &  
Water Conservation Improvement District**

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April 23, 2009

Mr. Charles R. Hoppin, Chairman  
State Water Resources Control Board  
P.O. Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



**RE: SUPPORT FOR DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS ORDER APPROVING A  
TEMPORARY URGENCY CHANGE PETITION BY SONOMA COUNTY  
WATER AGENCY REGARDING PERMITS 12947A, 12949, 12950, AND 16596  
(APPLICATIONS 12919A, 15736,1537,19351)**

Dear Mr. Hoppin:

The Mendocino Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (District) provides up to 8,000 acre feet a year of agricultural and municipal water supply to interior Mendocino County via Lake Mendocino and the upper Russian River. The District would like to express its strong support for the Order approving a Temporary Urgency Change Petition by Sonoma County Water Agency.

Storage in Lake Mendocino is at historically low levels due to 2 years of low rainfall in combination with the re-interpretation of the Potter Valley Diversion Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA). The current condition of the reservoir is so severe that it compelled the District to file its own Petition for Temporary Urgency Change (PTUC) on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Without a PTUC in place, Lake Mendocino is projected to be completely dewatered by the end of summer.

The District greatly appreciates all of the attention you and your staff have allocated to this urgent issue. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments regarding this important matter.

Sincerely,

Lee Howard

*President*  
Lee Howard

*Vice President*  
Judy Hatch

*Treasurer*  
Bill Townsend

*Trustee*  
Mike Lucchetti

*Trustee*  
Richard Shoemaker