



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

June 26, 2008

Dear Members of the California Congressional Delegation,

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts on the State Water Resources Control Board's proceeding related to the proposed revocation of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's water right permits for the Auburn Dam Project. Your letter raises important issues about the need to ensure reliable water supplies, and I can assure you that my administration shares your concerns about ensuring ample water supplies for our fellow Californians. The State Water Board will carefully consider these issues in its decision-making process.

The State Water Board issued Reclamation a notice of proposed permit revocation in January 2008, alleging that Reclamation had not pursued construction of the dam with due diligence, completed construction of the dam or applied water to beneficial use as addressed by the Bureau's permits for the Auburn Dam Project. State law allows the State Water Board to revoke a water right permit if the work under the permit has not commenced, been prosecuted with due diligence or completed.

The Bureau of Reclamation requested that the State Water Board hold a hearing on the revocation, and the State Water Board began the hearing process in response. The hearing process will enable the State Water Board to collect all evidence and facts on the matter, and members will weigh all the input to reach a decision that best benefits California. An essential consideration for the State Water Board in its decision is ensuring that the revocation of the permit will not negatively affect the state's water supply.

The State Water Board also considers non-evidentiary policy statements during its decision-making process. Your letter will be included as a policy statement, and it will be made a part of the record for this proceeding. Be assured that the State Water Board intends to carefully consider all the policy statements and all the evidence presented at the hearing before making an objective decision benefiting all of California. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



Arnold Schwarzenegger



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July 2, 2008  
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cc: Ms. Cindy Tuck, Undersecretary, California Environmental Protection Agency  
Ms. Tam M. Doduc, Chairwoman, State Water Resources Control Board  
Dr. Gary Wolff, Member, State Water Resources Control Board  
Mr. Arthur G. Baggett, Jr., Member, State Water Resources Control Board  
Mr. Charles R. Hoppin, Member, State Water Resources Control Board  
Ms. Frances Spivy-Weber, Member, State Water Resources Control Board Members  
~~Ms. Dorothy Rice, Executive Director, State Water Resources Control Board~~