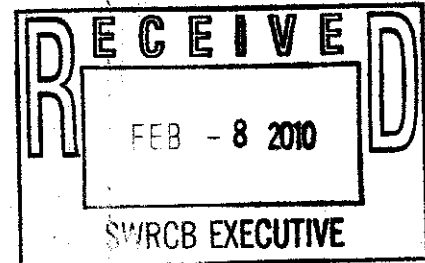


2002 TORREY DRIVE
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93312
FEBRUARY 5, 2010

ATTN: Ms. Jeanine Townsend, Clerk
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



SUBJECT: COMMENT LETTER - 2/16/10 BOARD MEETING ITEM: ORDER - KERN RIVER

Dear State Water Resources Control Board Members:

I understand the State Water Resources Control Board will be deciding on what to do with up to 120,000 acre-feet/year of unappropriated Kern River Water. I also understand that the City of Bakersfield (my home town) has applied to use this water to increase flow in the natural Kern River channel.

I'm writing in support of the City of Bakersfield's application, to run available water down the Kern River channel. I know this will greatly benefit our wildlife, environment, aesthetics, and critical ground water replenishment. It will also provide recreational opportunities for the public. When water flows down the river bed, through our city, it makes me happy. A dry river bed makes me sad.

Thanks so much for your consideration!

JoAnn B. Conard

JoAnn Conard, geologist

I urge the State Water Resources Control Board to approve the draft recommendation to find that the Kern River is not fully appropriated and to support the City of Bakersfield's application to run the unappropriated water down the historic Kern River channel.

Running water in the riverbed will:

- Restore our aquifer, which has been dangerously depleted during the recent drought.
- Restore the natural flora and fauna along the river.
- Provide recreation to the citizens.
- Create a more inviting, aesthetically pleasing city.

Signature:

Mark R. Walker

Date: 2-5-10