

November 11, 2011

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Attn: Jennifer Watts
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RE: Comments on Draft Water Quality Certification for the Upper American River Project, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 2101

Dear Ms. Watts:

The following signatories represent numerous conservation, environmental, recreation and trade association organizations, as well as concerned private citizens, who participated in the formal relicensing process of the Upper American River Project with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), and who also signed the final Settlement Agreement with the District.

We believe that the draft Water Quality Certification accurately reflects the concerns and agreements reached during our negotiations, and protects both the affected resources and the public interest. We urge the State Water Board to adopt the draft document as written and issue a formal 401 Certification.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our concerns and thoughts with you.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Bell
Foothills Conservancy

Bill Center
American River Recreation Association

Nathan Rangel
California Outdoors

Chris Shutes
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

Hilde Schweitzer
Private Boater

Theresa Simsiman
Private Boater

Dave Steindorf
American Whitewater

Ronald Stork
Friends of the River