

NOTE: LOGOS OF ALL AGENCIES THAT SIGN-ON WILL BE INCLUDED AT THE TOP OF THE LETTER

Date

The Honorable FIRST & LAST NAME

Address

Subject: Water Suppliers' Support for New Eel-Russian Facility

Dear TITLE LAST NAME,

Water suppliers in Sonoma, Mendocino and Marin counties strongly support the Proposal submitted to Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) by the Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, Round Valley Indian Tribes, and the Sonoma County Water Agency (Sonoma Water), which advances a regional solution for preserving flows and fisheries in the Russian River and improving Eel River fisheries.

PG&E plans to decommission its Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project, and in the absence of a proposal, end water diversions from the Eel River into the Russian River. The Proposal seeks to maintain these diversions while not delaying PG&E's plans to remove Scott Dam and Cape Horn Dam. The proposed New Eel-Russian Facility would provide for effective and timely fish migration past the new diversion facilities while allowing water to be transferred to the Russian River when flows are high enough in the Eel River. These diversions are critical to the health of the Russian River watershed, to ongoing water supply for numerous communities in Sonoma, Mendocino and Marin counties, and to Russian River fisheries. Based on records from 1911-2017, without the Potter Valley Diversion, Lake Mendocino would have gone dry 56 out of 108 years (unless intervening measures were taken).

Russian River water users have made significant strides in reducing water use, improving water use efficiency, and developing alternative supplies (for example, Sonoma Water and its retail water customers take nearly 40 percent less water from the Russian River than they did 20 years ago, despite a growing population). However, halting the diversions, even temporarily, would directly threaten the drinking water supply for more than 97,000 people living in Russian River communities -- and would make the drinking water supply for 600,000 additional people less reliable.

The lack of diverted water would cause tens of millions of dollars of economic damage per year, result in drastic conservation measures and increased water rates, curtail needed new housing, and increase the region's vulnerability to droughts, wildfires and climate change.

For these reasons, Sonoma, Mendocino and Marin county water suppliers hope that we can count on your support of the Proposal now, through the regulatory process, and as the Proposal proponents seek state and federal funding for completing the project design, environmental review and, ultimately, construction.

Thank you for your consideration,

NAMES

TITLES, AGENCY REPRESENTED

Federal and State Legislative Representatives

The Honorable Mike Thompson
United States House of Representatives
2300 County Center Drive
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Dear Mr. Thompson

The Honorable Jared Huffman
United State House of Representatives
999 Fifth Ave.
San Rafael, CA 95901
Dear Mr. Huffman

The Honorable Mike McGuire
50 D Street, Suite 120A
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Dear Senator McGuire

The Honorable Bill Dodd
50 D Street, Suite 300
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Dear Senator Dodd

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
2721 Napa Valley Corporate Drive
Napa, CA 94558
Dear Assemblymember Aguiar-Curry

The Honorable Jim Wood
50 D Street, Suite 450
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Dear Assemblymember Wood

The Honorable Damon Connolly
50 D Street, Suite 301
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Dear Assemblymember Connolly