

Amador Regional Sanitation Authority



"Servicing Amador City, Martell, & Sutter Creek"

April 14, 2025

City of Ione
Attn: George Lee, City Manager
1 E. Main Street
Ione, CA 95640

City of Ione
Attn: City Council

RE: ARSA Mid and Long Term Planning Activities

Dear George Lee:

Thank you for your continued partnership on our shared wastewater challenges. The operational discussions this last year and the joint work in response to the Regional Water Board have been greatly appreciated.

I wanted to update you and your Council on the current thinking of the City of Sutter Creek and of the Amador Regional Sanitation Authority. I am attaching a recent staff report to the City Council which summarizes our activity and thinking.

Past planning documents identified a new tertiary plant with disposal into Sutter Creek as the preferred alternative considering all factors. In the last year, we have relooked at our options and have re-affirmed this is the preferred option. We are continuing to do planning work to determine costs and timing.

We expect the effort to build and certify a new plant to take 5–8 years. Without a disposal alternative, we intend to continue the current relationship in the mid-term, utilizing the ARSA pipeline with disposal on the Castle Oaks Golf Course. The project timeline is subject to variability based on securing funding sources, permits and long supply chains.

We will continue to communicate our plans and timing as project plans take shape to enable collaboration. Given Ione's new housing developments and need for more disposal capacity, if we can work out the timing, the ideal scenario would be for new housing customers and the City of Ione to replace the loss of ARSA water and use that freed up capacity to continue to water the golf course. Given the tight bounds of the water balance in both wet and dry years, getting this timing right will be a challenge

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for us to jointly manage. I want to emphasize that we will continue to need that disposal capacity for many years while the plant is being developed.

We should meet regularly to discuss planning of both ARSA and the City of Ione. Please reach out if you have questions.

Sincerely

TDuBois

Tom DuBois
General Manager, ARSA