

April 8, 2026

SENT VIA: EMAIL

Tom Dubois
City Manager
City of Sutter Creek
tdubois@cityofsuttercreek.org

SUBJECT: Terms for Amendment or Replacement of the Wastewater Agreement

Dear Mr. Dubois:

On behalf of the City of Ione (Ione), I am interested in continuing discussions regarding amendment or replacement of the “Agreement to Regulate Use of Henderson/Preston Wastewater Disposal System” dated September 18, 2007 (“2007 Wastewater Agreement”) that provides for the California Department of Correction (CDCR) and Amador Regional Sanitation Authority (ARSA)/Sutter Creek’s disposal of secondary wastewater at Ione’s Castle Oaks Wastewater Reclamation Facility (Facility). Below is a brief summary of issues I wish to discuss with you in furtherance of the amendment or replacement of the 2007 Wastewater Agreement:

1. The price of wastewater treatment services provided to ARSA/Sutter Creek – The 2007 Agreement requires CDCR and ARSA to pay a share of Facility operation and maintenance costs, but defers the amount to be determined by agreement of the parties. CDCR has agreed to increase its payments to Ione to account for current and projected costs of Facility operation and maintenance. Ione proposes an amendment or new agreement that similarly includes a term for ARSA/Sutter Creek’s payment of its share of current costs of Facility operation and maintenance and that allows for flexibility as such costs change over time. Ione understands ARSA/Sutter Creek’s need for further information regarding the current and lifetime costs of operation and maintenance of the facility, including operational and capital improvements, and is willing to share such information for the purposes of negotiating an agreeable rate.
2. Wastewater demands wet and dry years – The parties to the 2007 Wastewater Agreement completed joint and individual water balances for their respective permitted facilities as requested in 2025 by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. Ione proposes that this information, including both ARSA/Sutter Creek supply of secondary treated effluent and Ione’s demands for tertiary treated effluent, be used to revise the total allowable discharge of secondary effluent to the Facility during the irrigation season. As has frequently been discussed by the parties to the 2007 Wastewater Agreement, Ione also requests consideration of a term to allow for flexibility in the amount of discharge, to account for dischargers’ needs as well as Facility operations.

This is not an exhaustive list of issues, but I understand that these are primary concerns for both Ione and ARSA/Sutter Creek in negotiating an amended or new agreement. If there are other terms you would like to discuss, please let me know.

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Please contact me to schedule a time to discuss negotiation of an amended or new agreement or if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

George Lee
City of Ione
City Manager