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Assembly
California Legislature



BRIAN DAHLE
ASSEMBLYMAN, FIRST DISTRICT

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WATER, PARKS, AND WILDLIFE
AGRICULTURE

July 2, 2014

Tracie Billington, Branch Chief
Financial Assistance Branch
Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: City of Shasta Lake's Water Supply Enhancement Project

Dear Ms. Billington,

Maintaining reliable water supplies through California's intense drought demands an unprecedented level of cooperation among government agencies. In that spirit, the City of Shasta Lake is teaming with the Bella Vista Water District on an infrastructure project that will improve the regional ability to move water where it is needed most, all the while protecting threatened and endangered salmon runs on the Sacramento River.

To make up for cutbacks in its allocation from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the City has purchased water from the Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District and MCM Inc. Unfortunately, the Bureau has taken the position that additional withdrawals from the City's intakes within Shasta Dam would substantively affect the Cold Water Pool in Shasta Lake and harm the ability to control water temperatures downstream as required by state and federal law.

By working with the Bella Vista Water District to use its intake below the dam, the City will avoid impacts to the Cold Water Pool, obtain long-term water stability, and be able help Bella Vista with supplies in shortage years. In addition, the new intertie and pipelines will substantially improve both agencies' infrastructure and undoubtedly reduce leakage.

This project will help make the best use of existing water supplies. It will create new flexibility for the region's infrastructure. It will mean long-term relief for tens of thousands of Shasta County residents currently facing shortages not so much for lack of water as for lack of pipes to move it to the right place. I strongly support the project and hope the Department of Water Resources also sees the wisdom of this investment.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact District Director Bruce Ross at (530) 223-6300.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Dahle".

Brian Dahle
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 1ST DISTRICT