



# South Tahoe Public Utility District

General Manager  
Richard H. Solbrig

Directors  
Kathleen Farrell  
James R. Jones  
Mary Lou Mosbacher  
Duane Wallace  
Eric Schafer

1275 Meadow Crest Drive • South Lake Tahoe • CA 96150-7401  
Phone 530 544-6474 • Fax 530 541-0614 • www.stpud.us

January 26, 2007

State Water Resources Quality Control Board  
ATTN: Ms. Tracie Billington and Ms. Shahla Farahnak  
1001 I Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: South Tahoe Public Utility District (STPUD) Comments on  
SWRQCB/DWR Additional Proposition 50 IRWMP Funding Recommendations

Dear Ms. Billington and Ms. Farahnak:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the State Water Resources Quality Control Board (SWRQCB) and Department of Water Resources (DWR) Additional Funding Recommendations for allocation of Integrated Regional Water Management Program (IRWMP) Prop 50 implementation grant funds.

Due to the lengthy, expensive and arduous process of applying for the IRWMP grant funds, STPUD staff and Board of Directors had commented in a December 5, 2006 letter that DWR and SWRCB should award the remaining nine grant applications from the 2006 grant cycle with the \$180 million remaining in Proposition 50 funds. We appreciate the response by both your agencies to our original comments.

We believe the recommended funding allocations as announced at the Public Workshop held in Sacramento on January 23, 2006 would be of benefit to the State and the applicants in the following ways:

- The critical capital improvement and water quality projects the remaining nine applicants have designated would not be forced to wait for another funding cycle to implement their projects. Immediately awarding the funds

for applications that have all ready been reviewed would serve as a benefit to the residents of the respective jurisdictions, and meets the intent of Proposition 50 to improve statewide water infrastructure in a timely manner.

- The recommended funding allocations would save these IRWMP partnerships from having to duplicate earlier efforts, saving public dollars and valuable staff resource time. This would also decrease the burden placed on staff at DWR and SWRQCB by allowing them to process applications that they have already reviewed and commented on.

Obviously, due to the extensive time, effort and resources utilized to prepare the original Tahoe Sierra IRWMP application, the Board of Directors and staff at STPUD would prefer the application be fully funded as submitted. However, we applaud the State's desire to meet an equitable geographic distribution of these funds, even if this created less funding per application. We urge the DWR and SWRQCB to finalize these additional recommended funding allocations and look forward to hearing your decision.

Very truly yours,

Eric Schafer  
President of the Board of Directors