

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 74-21

EXPRESSING CONCERN REGARDING OVERCOMMITMENT  
OF WATER SUPPLY BY MAMMOTH COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

WHEREAS:

1. Mammoth County Water District in Mono County holds Permit 11463 (Application 17770) for the appropriation of water from Mammoth Creek for municipal purposes within the boundaries of the District as they existed at the time the permit was issued in 1958. Since that date several annexations have been made to the District and water service has been extended to the enlarged area.
2. On January 4, 1974, the State Water Resources Control Board held a hearing on a petition by the District to expand the service area under the water right permit to include the present District boundaries. One of the purposes of the hearing was to determine whether the District had an adequate water right to meet the expanded service area.
3. The evidence showed that delivery of water during the month of maximum use in 1972 (the latest year for which figures were available) averaged about 1.6 cubic feet per second (cfs); whereas the permit allows a diversion of not to exceed 2.0 cfs. It appears that the District's water requirements will shortly exceed its water right under Permit 11463 due to the large number of "assurances of service" which have been given by the District for developments within the District, many of which are not now being served with water, as evidenced by its exhibits at the January 4 hearing. The draft in a month of maximum use will certainly exceed 2.0 cfs to serve existing use, plus assurances of future service. Based on evidence presented at the January 4 hearing, the Board's staff estimates that the maximum monthly draft will exceed 3.0 cfs.
4. We are advised that the Department of Real Estate presently has under consideration at least nine applications for final public reports which, if issued, will contain notices to the public that water supply for the subdivisions will be provided by the Mammoth County Water District. The Department should be formally advised at an early date of the circumstances herein stated in order that they may be considered in whatever action the Department determines to take regarding the public reports.

5. The District currently has pending before this Board water right Application 24295 for an additional 3.0 cfs from Mammoth Creek, which application has been protested by other persons. Action on this application is being deferred pending completion by the District of an environmental impact report, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970. Until a determination can be made whether an additional water supply is available from Mammoth Creek, or until another water supply is obtained by the District, it appears that the District will not be able to fully supply the water demand for which assurances of service have already been made to prospective water users and that further assurances would be unfounded and ill-advised.
6. The Board does not have jurisdiction to regulate groundwater and has not investigated local groundwater conditions nor reviewed or evaluated information developed by the District relating to the adequacy of the groundwater to meet future demand. The Board has been advised that the District is planning to undertake certain water conservation measures which may reduce the demand on the total water supply. The effectiveness of such measures has not been evaluated by this Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the State Water Resources Control Board expresses its concern regarding the overcommitment of the present supply of Mammoth County Water District to meet the needs of the users within the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mammoth County Water District, the County of Mono Planning Commission, and the State Department of Real Estate.

#### CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Officer of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on February 21, 1974.

*Bill B. Dendy*

Bill B. Dendy  
Executive Officer