

# IF YOU VALUE YOUR WATER YOU'LL READ THIS... IF YOU VALUE YOUR FUTURE YOU'LL SIGN AND SEND THIS

## RESOLUTION



Whereas, the State Water Resources Control Board's Draft Substitute Environmental Document (SED) proposes to require the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced Rivers release 35 percent of unimpaired flow from February to June of each year; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirements will create "significant and unavoidable" impacts to the economy, agriculture, and groundwater basins in Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Merced Counties; and

WHEREAS, those impacts include approximately \$69 million in economic impacts in an economically distressed region of our state; and

WHEREAS, the impacts result in a loss of \$4.5 million in energy revenue to the Modesto, Merced and Turlock Irrigation districts only to be offset by rate increases to all power users in Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced Counties; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirement would fallow approximately 128,295 acres of prime farm land and result in the loss of over 800 family farms in the region; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirement will result in over-drafted groundwater basins; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1.5% of the jobs in the three county area will be permanently lost and up to 3.1% of related sector jobs will be lost during drought periods; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirements will not provide measurable benefits to native fish populations or promote ecosystem restoration; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirement ignores non-flow alternatives that are less costly and more effective; and

WHEREAS, the proposed requirement compromises attaining the dual goals of ecosystem restoration and water supply reliability under SBx7-7.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the State Water Resources Control Board should pursue a comprehensive solution that is consistent with the timing of the overall comprehensive Delta planning process and which takes into account the potential impact on hydroelectric energy generation. This solution must prioritize non-flow measures to protect native fish species, such as predation reduction programs, before demanding flow increases that would threaten the economic vitality of these California counties, cities, and small family farms.

*Richard L. Mendez* Owner & Operator  
Livestock  
(Signature and Entity)

*3-22-13*  
(Date)

Dear Sirs:

Its a shame that we have people in this state trying to control our water that don't have any respect for the people growing our food and fiber and the livelihoods related to agriculture. These people would rather save a few fish and eat foreign grown food that is not regulated for pesticides and other chemicals as is done in California. They are willing to send water south to water Golf courses, peoples lawns, and massive parks in cities playgrounds. and allow the whole central valley to dry up. Where is the common sense in our government policies and the people that write them, there is none.

R.L. Mendoga  
Rancher & Farmer

P.S.

I am a 5<sup>th</sup> generation Rancher and if you think we didn't respect the land, water, and environment you are all brain dead. We wouldn't have survived this long without managing these resources properly.