

**commentletters - Comment letter 2/16/10 Board meeting item:Order-Kern River**

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**From:** "Mooers Family" <mmooers@bak.rr.com>  
**To:** <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>  
**Date:** 2/5/2010 10:18 AM  
**Subject:** Comment letter 2/16/10 Board meeting item:Order-Kern River

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As a resident of Bakersfield, I see great benefit to the community in having the Kern River flow year round. I agree that there is water available on the Kern River, based on staff findings. I support the City of Bakersfield's application to run water down the Kern River. There are a number of significant benefits to the community as a whole if the river is allowed to run down its natural course.

There are a number of parks bordering the river within the city limits that are small hubs of activity in the community. These hubs will grow in use and importance to the community when the river is flowing. This in turn will help with the overall perception of life in the Bakersfield area, and improve property values and tax revenues to the State and County. There are also significant benefits to wildlife habitat, and replenishment of the local aquifer, which is important in our area. When the river last ran on an extended basis, we had all kinds of flora and fauna around the river, including beavers in the heart of the city. This adds a unique quality to the city that cannot occur with a dry riverbed. It has also been noted that the most important part of the recharge basin for the aquifer is in fact the riverbed, which does not occur now.

For these reasons, I believe the Board should accept the City of Bakersfield's application to run water down the Kern River as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Bakersfield CA. 93312

