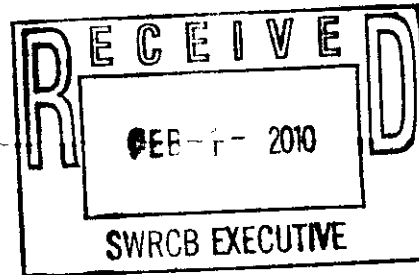


Thomas L. Eveland
226 Port Logan Drive
Bakersfield, CA 93312

January 26, 2010

Ms. Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100



Comment Letter – 2/16/10 Board Meeting
ITEM: Order – Kern River

I live in Bakersfield and spend several hours a week bicycling on the bike path along the dry bed of the Kern River. Having water in the river year-round would greatly enhance the enjoyment of hundreds of men and women who bike, run, walk or push strollers on the bike path, as well as many thousands who live or work in the vicinity of the currently dry riverbed.

If an option is being considered of allowing water to flow in the river through town on a part-time basis, I would oppose such an option. Several years ago water flowed in the river through town and west of town for a number of months. The level of Lake Isabella was being lowered to reduce the risk of the dam collapsing. Water plants flourished in the river west of town as did fish. Migrating birds visited the area in impressive numbers. Once the water stopped flowing, however, the plants and fish died and soon began to stink. I had to stop using the bike path west of town for several months because of the foul smell!

For the above reasons I recommend that the Water Resources Board declare that the Kern River is not fully appropriated, if the result would be water flowing in the river through Bakersfield full-time.

Sincerely,

Thomas L. Eveland