
From: Tom Hix

Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2015 12:26 PM

To: 'Tom.Howard@waterboards.ca.gov'

Cc: 'fbigelow@netptc.net'; 'kristin@kristinolsen.org'; 'tcberryhill@yahoo.com'; 'tomlorimcc@comcast.net'

Subject: Lake Tulloch Petition

Dear Mr. Howard

I am strongly urging your support of the Petition by the South San Joaquin (SSJD) and Oakdale Irrigation Districts (OID) for a reduction in the release of water from New Melones between now and September. There are numerous reasons for you to support this emergency petition, including but not limited to the following reasons:

- The draining of the lake will devastate the local economy and the real estate values and significantly reduce tax revenues to the county.
- The habitat around the lake is very well established since the building of the lake nearly 60 years for the ecosystem to recover from the damage.
- CCWD customers will be impacted by the loss of their only water supply.
- The water in the reservoirs should be used for human consumption including agriculture first before environmental purposes. Although the fish flows are well intended, it should not take place during a severe drought and place the economy and people at risk.
- The water in New Melones should be held back in reserve since only a small amount of the capacity of the reservoir remains.

If these required flows are not reduced immediately the entire community of Copperopolis (over 2500 households and 10,000 residents) will be severely impacted and may have no drinking water by this summer. This devastating impact may result in massive economic claims against the state and federal agencies for the total destruction of the economy in this area. We strongly urge that you grant this petition and preserve the local economy from this potential devastation.

Sincerely,
/s/ Thomas Hix
Thomas Hix

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