

SECRETARY-WATERMASTER:
RICHARD L. SCHAFER
MEMBER AGENCIES:
PIONEER WATER COMPANY
VANDALIA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
PORTERVILLE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
LOWER TULE RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT
DOWNSTREAM KAWEAH & TULE RIVERS ASSOCIATION

August 10, 2006

The Honorable Devin Nunes
1017 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Nunes:

On behalf of the membership of the Tule River Association, we are writing in support of authorizing legislation that would fund a feasibility study to determine the design and location for a water impoundment facility on the Tule River Indian Reservation.

As you know, we and the federal government have been involved in nearly three years of negotiations with the Tule River Tribe to quantify the amount of water the Tribe is entitled to receive. These negotiations were entered into cooperatively and may well be the only tribal water rights negotiations that were not undertaken because of litigation. An overall spirit of cooperation has been the hallmark of our efforts. All sides vigorously advocated the interests of their members but we have never lost sight of the overall goal to provide a stable water supply to the Tribe and its neighbors.

As parties to these negotiations, we can report a growing confidence that an agreement will be finalized within the next few months. Among other items, the agreement will determine the amount of water the Tribe is entitled to receive on a permanent basis. The availability of that water will be provided for by the construction of a water containment and delivery system sited within the boundaries of the Tribe's reservation. The site design and construction of the water system will be instrumental in effectuating the terms of the agreement and is a critical next step. As the negotiating parties finalize the details of the agreement, we encourage you to introduce authorizing legislation that would provide Federal funding for a feasibility study to identify the appropriate design and location for the tribal water containment and delivery system. These decisions will allow all parties to plan future water activity in an integrated and cooperative fashion. The outcome of the study will be one of the key planning factors that will allow all parties to coordinate their future plans in a way that maximizes efficient use of a valuable resource.

Stable and secure water supplies are a key to the future growth of Tulare County. Settlement of the Tule River Indian Reservation water rights on the Tule River is a move forward for such security, and sets the stage for the next phase, being federal legislation.

We thank you for your continued interest and support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

R. L. Schafer

RLS/mep

cc: TRTC
TRA Directors

SOUTH TULE INDEPENDENT DITCH COMPANY

P.O. BOX 1270

PORTERVILLE, CA 93258

August 14, 2006

Honorable Devin Nunes
Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nunes:

I am writing on behalf of South Tule Independent Ditch Company in support of Tule River Tribe's request seeking your support for authorizing legislation that would fund a feasibility study to determine the design and location for a water storage facility on the Tule River Indian Reservation.

The Tule River Tribe, the Tule River Association and South Tule Independent Ditch Company have been involved in nearly three years of water rights negotiations, along with the Federal government, to quantify the amount of water the Tribe is entitled to receive. The parties have entered into these negotiations cooperatively and believe that this may be the only tribal water rights negotiations to proceed this far without litigation. Though these negotiations are not yet fully finalized, the parties have worked diligently and cooperatively to develop a water rights plan that will provide a stable water supply for the Tribe, as well as for its downstream neighbors who have historical water rights to the waters of the South Fork of the Tule River. Additionally, the Tribe has committed to honor the provisions of a 1922 agreement between South Tule Independent Ditch Company and the Department of the Interior, acting in behalf of the Tribe, regarding the relative water rights of these two entities. The parties are in substantial agreement that the only method to secure a stable water supply is for the Tribe to impound water during the high flow season. Thus, a significant storage facility will be required to facilitate the proposed agreement and supply the rapidly growing demand for water on the Reservation.

In order to finalize and implement any agreement, it is critical to determine the feasibility of the proposed water storage facility, including site design and location. We therefore encourage you to introduce authorizing legislation that would provide Federal funding for a feasibility study to identify the best system design and location for a tribal water containment facility and delivery system.

Thank you for your interest and support in this matter. Should you have any questions, please telephone me at (559) 784-4648 or (559) 784-3232.

Sincerely,



Philip G. Larson, President

COUNTY OF TULARE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



JIM MAPLES
DISTRICT FIVE

August 23, 2006

The Honorable Devin Nunes
1013 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Congressman Nunes:

I have been following the water rights negotiations between the Tule River Tribe, the federal government, and neighboring downstream stakeholders. A final agreement between the negotiating parties is likely within the next few months.

The agreement between all parties will suggest the construction of a water impoundment facility and water delivery system. These facilities will be based within the boundaries of the Tule River Indian Reservation. A guaranteed and stable supply of water is essential to the interested parties and continued growth within the community.

To finalize and implement any agreement between the negotiating parties, it is critical to determine the feasibility of the proposed water storage facility. I encourage you to introduce legislation that would fund a feasibility study to determine the best location and design for a water impoundment facility and delivery system.

Thank you for your interest and support in this matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (559) 733-6271.

Sincerely,


Jim Maples, District Five
Tulare County Board of Supervisors



September 6, 2006

Honorable Devin Nunes
Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Nunes:

As elected officials of the City of Porterville, California, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your tireless efforts on behalf of our constituents and our local economy. We look forward to a close and continuous collaboration with you and your office in order to advance and secure a bright future for all our citizens.

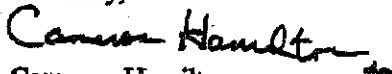
As you know, one of the keys to a viable and growing future for the City is the guarantee of a stable supply of water for our homeowners and local businesses. The demands of growth will place a premium on this invaluable resource. Competing pressures and claims on a finite resource require all of us to work cooperatively to assure a stable and long-term supply that can fairly accommodate steady growth, even in times of serious climatic stress.

With this in mind, we would recommend your strong support for the nearly finalized efforts of our neighbors, the Tule River Tribe of California. As you know, the Tule River Tribe has been in multi-year water rights negotiations with federal and local stakeholders. These nearly finalized negotiations will bring a large measure of certainty of supply for the Tribe and neighboring stakeholders. Eventually, we hope that this agreement will add to the amount of available water that will need to be supplied to the tribe and the local area.

We would ask that you introduce legislation that authorizes the funding for a feasibility study that would determine the best location and design for a water impoundment facility and water delivery system within the reservation. Scale and design of the facility and delivery system depends on the amount of water that all parties agree the tribe is entitled to receive, but that negotiated determination is just around the corner and there is no good reason to delay moving to the next step as quickly as possible. Again, we thank you for your continued support.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,


Cameron Hamilton
Mayor of the City of Porterville

RESOLUTION NO. 116-2006

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTERVILLE,
CALIFORNIA SUPPORTING THE INTRODUCTION OF FEDERAL LEGISLATION
AUTHORIZING THE FUNDING OF A WATER CONTAINMENT/DELIVERY
SYSTEM FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE TULE RIVER TRIBE OF CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, the provision of a stable, secure water supply to the Tule River Tribe of California Reservation, as well as to its downstream neighbors on the South Fork of the Tule River, is a major component in the future growth of Tulare County, California; and


WHEREAS, the Tule River Tribe of California, the Tule River Association and the South Tule Independent Ditch Company have been negotiating for almost three years, in conjunction with the United States Department of the Interior, to quantify the amount of water the Tule River Tribe is entitled to receive through a water rights plan; and

WHEREAS, it is now prudent to determine the feasibility of a water containment facility and delivery system, including site design and location, within the boundaries of the Tule River Tribe of California Reservation in order to facilitate a final water rights plan;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Porterville that the City Council hereby recommends that legislation be introduced by the Office of US Congressman Devin Nunes authorizing the funding for a feasibility study that would determine the best location and design for a water impoundment facility and water delivery system within the Tule River Tribe of California Reservation.

ADOPTED this 5th day of September, 2006.

ATTEST:


Georgia Hawley, Chief Deputy City Clerk


Cameron Hamilton, Mayor

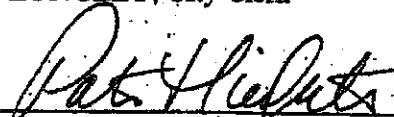
STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
 CITY OF PORTERVILLE) SS
 COUNTY OF TULARE)

I, JOHN LONGLEY, the duly appointed City Clerk of the City of Porterville do hereby certify and declare that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy a resolution passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Porterville at a regular meeting of the Porterville City Council duly called and held on the 5th day of September, 2006.

THAT said resolution was duly passed adopted by the following vote:

Council:	McCRACKEN	P. MARTINEZ	F. MARTINEZ	STADTHERR	HAMILTON
AYES:	X	X	X	X	X
NOES:					
ABSTAIN:					
ABSENT:					

JOHN LONGLEY, City Clerk


 by Patrice Hildreth, Deputy City Clerk



County of Tulare

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

September 19, 2006

The Honorable Devin Nunes
1013 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20515

Allen R. Ishida
District One

Dear Congressman Nunes:

Connie Conway
District Two

The Tulare County Board of Supervisors has been following the water rights negotiations between the Tule River Tribe, the federal government, and neighboring downstream stakeholders. A final agreement between the negotiating parties is likely within the next few months.

Phillip A. Cox
District Three

The agreement between all parties will suggest the construction of a water impoundment facility and water delivery system. These facilities will be based within the boundaries of the Tule River Indian Reservation. A guaranteed and stable supply of water is essential to the interested parties and continued growth within the community.

J. Steven Worthley
District Four

To finalize and implement any agreement between the negotiating parties, it is critical to determine the feasibility of the proposed water storage facility. We encourage you to introduce legislation that would fund a feasibility study to determine the best location and design for a water impoundment facility and delivery system.

Jim Maples
District Five

*

Thank you for your interest and support in this matter.

BOARD STAFF

Sincerely,

Jeff Forbes

J. Steven Worthley
J. Steven Worthley, Chairman
Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Allen R. Ishida
Allen Ishida, Vice-Chairman
Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Tracey La Monica

*

CLERK OF THE BOARD

Connie Conway
Connie Conway, District Two
Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Phillip A. Cox
Phil Cox, District Three
Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Michelle Baldwin
Chief Clerk

*

Jim Maples
Jim Maples, District Five
Tulare County Board of Supervisors

Administration Bldg.
900 West Burrel
Sala, CA 93291

TEL: (559) 733-8271
FAX: (559) 733-8888

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

The National Congress of American Indians Resolution #ANC-07-019



TITLE: Support for the Tule River Tribe Feasibility Study Bill for Proposed Reservoir and Water Distribution System

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Ohlay Owingeh
(Pueblo of San Juan)

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NORTHEAST

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NORTHWEST

Ernie Stenogus
Coeur d'Alene Tribe

PACIFIC

Cheryl Selinger
Wiyot

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

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Crow Tribe

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SOUTHERN PLAINS

Steve Johnson
Apsaroke Shawnee

SOUTHWEST

Harold Hunt
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

WESTERN

Kathleen Kitcheyan
San Carlos Apache

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jacqueline Johnson
Tlingit

NCAI HEADQUARTERS

1301 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036
202.466.7767
202.466.7797 fax
www.ncai.org

WHEREAS, we, the members of the National Congress of American Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants the inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was established in 1944 and is the oldest and largest national organization of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of NCAI; and

WHEREAS, the Tule River Tribe is in good standing membership with the NCAI and has predominantly supported the legislative issues of NCAI and its support services to Native Americans in its entire membership; and

WHEREAS, the preservation, protection, and development of Indian water resources is of paramount importance to the continued vitality of reservation economies, to the preservation of Indian culture, and religious practices, and to ensure that the next generations will inherit sustainable homelands; and

WHEREAS, the President, by a series of three Executive Orders, on January 9, 1873, October 3, 1873, and August 3, 1878, set aside and defined the boundaries of the Tule River Indian Reservation for the purpose of providing a permanent and sustainable homeland for the Tule River Indians; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the doctrine of federally reserved water rights, the Tule River Tribe has a right to water sufficient to fulfill the purposes of Reservation which includes ensuring a permanent and sustainable homeland for the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Since 1971, the Tribe has diligently worked to establish its federally reserved water rights in order to ensure that the Tribe has sufficient water to meet its current and future water needs; and

WHEREAS, the Tribe's right to water can best be resolved by a single, comprehensive settlement agreement entered into by and among the Tribe, other affected water users impacted by the Tribe's use of its water right, and the Secretary of the Interior, which Agreement will subsequently be ratified by the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, the parties have reached an Agreement in principal and expect to introduce settlement legislation in the near future; and

WHEREAS, a Bill has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives directing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility and suitability of constructing a storage reservoir, outlet works, and a delivery system for the Tule River Indian Tribe of California to provide a water supply for domestic, municipal, commercial, industrial, and agricultural purposes, and for other purposes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the NCAI does hereby support the Tule River Tribe in their efforts to get their feasibility study bill passed; and

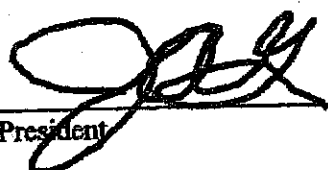
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NCAI encourages the Department of the Interior to fully support the congressional legislation directing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study for the Tule River Tribe's proposed reservoir, and urges Congress to expeditiously enact legislation ratifying the Tule River Tribe's final water rights settlement agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until all terms of the Tule River Tribe's settlement legislation have been carried out; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of NCAI until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution:

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the General Assembly at the 2007 64th Mid-Year Session of the National Congress of American Indians, held at the Egan Convention Center in Anchorage, Alaska on June 10-13, 2007, with a quorum present.

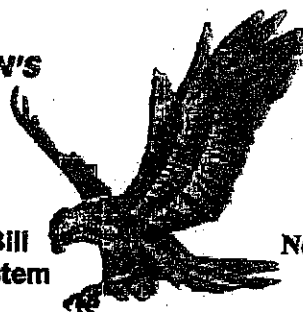


President

ATTEST:



Recording Secretary



RESOLUTION

**Support for the Tule River Tribe Feasibility Study Bill
for Proposed Reservoir and Water Distribution System**

No.2007-08

WHEREAS, we, the members of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association and citizens of the United States, with inherent sovereign rights of our Indian nations, rights secured under Indian treaties and agreements with the United States, and all other rights and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and Constitution of the United States, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise promote the health, safety and welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution; and

WHEREAS, The Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association (SCTCA) was established in 1972 and is the oldest and largest organization of Southern California Tribal governments; and

WHEREAS, The health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of SCTCA; and

WHEREAS, the Tule River Tribe is in good standing membership with the SCTCA and has predominantly supported the legislative issues of SCTCA and its support services to Native Americans in its entire membership; and

WHEREAS, the preservation, protection, and development of Indian water resources is of paramount importance to the continued vitality of reservation economies, to the preservation of Indian culture, and religious practices, and to ensure that the next generations will inherit sustainable homelands; and

WHEREAS, the President, by a series of three Executive Orders, on January 9, 1873, October 3, 1873, and August 3, 1878, set aside and defined the boundaries of the Tule River Indian Reservation for the purpose of providing a permanent and sustainable homeland for the Tule River Indians; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the doctrine of federally reserved water rights, the Tule River Tribe has a right to water sufficient to fulfill the purposes of Reservation which includes ensuring a permanent and sustainable homeland for the Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Since 1971, the Tribe has diligently worked to establish its federally reserved water rights in order to ensure that the Tribe has sufficient water to meet its current and future water needs; and

Continued.....

RESOLUTION

**Support for the Tule River Tribe Feasibility Study Bill
for Proposed Reservoir and Water Distribution System**

No. 2007-08

WHEREAS, the Tribe's right to water can best be resolved by a single, comprehensive settlement agreement entered into by and among the Tribe, other affected water users impacted by the Tribe's use of its water right, and the Secretary of the Interior, which Agreement will subsequently be ratified by the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, the parties have reached an Agreement in principal and expect to introduce settlement legislation in the near future; and

WHEREAS, a Bill has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives directing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility and suitability of constructing a storage reservoir, outlet works, and a delivery system for the Tule River Indian Tribe of California to provide a water supply for domestic, municipal, commercial, industrial, and agricultural purposes, and for other purposes.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the SCTCA does hereby support the Tule River Tribe in their efforts to get their feasibility study bill passed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SCTCA encourages the Department of the Interior to fully support the congressional legislation directing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a feasibility study for the Tule River Tribe's proposed reservoir, and urges Congress to expeditiously enact legislation ratifying the Tule River Tribe's final water rights settlement agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of SCTCA until all terms of the Tule River Tribe's settlement legislation have been carried out; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be the policy of SCTCA until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

CERTIFICATON

At a general called meeting of the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association's Board Members in which a quorum was present and held on August 21, 2007, the Resolution No. 2007-08 received a vote of 13 Support; 0 Opposed; 0 Absent; and 0 Abstained.

ATTEST:



Robert Smith
Chairman of the Board of SCTCA

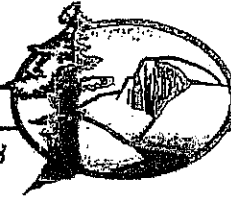


Denis Turner
Recording Secretary

YOSEMITE SEQUOIA

RESOURCE CONSERVATION &

DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



POST OFFICE BOX 415 NORTH FORK, CALIFORNIA 93643
PHONE (559) 877-8660 FAX (559) 877-8661

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1ST VICE PRESIDENT

BRIAN REUGER
2ND VICE PRESIDENT

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TREASURER

JACK FRY
SECRETARY

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TULARE COUNTY

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATIONS:

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CALIF. AMER-ASIAN
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MARIPOSA COUNTY EDC
FIRESAFE COUNCILS
MARIPOSA COUNTY
EASTERN MADERA
HWY 168
SEQUOIA
SIERRA FOOTHILL
CONSERVANCY

TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS:

NORTH FORK RANCHERIA
BIG SANDY RANCHERIA
COLD SPRINGS RANCHER
TULE RIVER RESERVATION
PICAYUNE RANCHERIA

COORDINATOR
TOBYN SMITH

ADMIN. ASSIST.
NANCY BUCK

Re: **Tule River Tribe Water Development Feasibility Study** August 28th, 2008

To Whom it may concern,

The Yosemite Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council is an organization that works to conserve our natural resources and support economic stability in the four counties we serve (Mariposa, Madera, Fresno and Tulare). In addition to our sponsors listed on this letterhead, we work with a myriad of partners all striving to care for our resources and our rural Sierra Nevada communities. While we work to improve the environmental health of our area, reduce the potential for catastrophic wildfires, and support sustainable economic growth; a primary focus of ours is to ensure that our vital water resources are conserved, and that projects to improve water quality and increase availability are implemented to benefit our region.

As you know, water quality and availability are critical issues for the entire state of California. For this reason, we support the Tule River Indian Reservations' plan to conduct a feasibility study to determine the suitability of constructing a storage reservoir, outlet works, and a delivery system to provide a water supply for domestic, municipal, industrial, and agricultural uses. This study will evaluate potential alternatives (including the possibility of developing a phase I reservoir to hold up to 5,000 acre feet of water) to provide a domestic, commercial, municipal, industrial, and irrigation water supply for the Tule River Tribe of the Tule River Reservation.

It is our understanding that upon completion, the results of the study shall be transmitted to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate, to enable legislators to make sound decisions relating to California's important water resources. Educating legislators and residents about natural resource and community issues is an ongoing goal of our Council, therefore, we hope that you will support the Tule River Water Development Feasibility Study, so that we can all learn more about our water resources and alternatives to meet community needs.

Sincerely

Bob Pickard,
President,
Yosemite/Sequoia Resource Conservation & Development Council