



June 1, 2005

Honorable Lois Wolk  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Assemblymember Wolk,

**Subject: Support for SB 197 (Cox) – Sly Park Reservoir**

I am writing on behalf of the Regional Water Authority (RWA) to encourage you to support SB 197. This bill was introduced in the Senate on February 10, 2005, by Senator Cox and co-authored by Assemblymember Tim Leslie.

The RWA serves and represents the interests of 18 water providers in Sacramento, Placer, and El Dorado counties. RWA's mission is to help its members protect and enhance the reliability, affordability and quality of water resources served to over a million people in the region.

SB 197 would remove provision (a)(1) from the California Health and Safety Code (HSC) Section 115842. That provision essentially calls for a new treatment plant that would cost El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) customers more than \$28 million if body contact, primarily swimming, continues at Jenkinson Lake in the Sly Park Recreation Area.

Sly Park, with Jenkinson Lake at its center, is a major recreation destination in El Dorado County and thus a source of much needed revenue from visitor expenditures at local businesses. Swimming has occurred over 50 years at Jenkinson Lake.

The lake is also a source of drinking water for many residents in El Dorado County and the health and safety of this supply is of utmost importance. EID points to a new, scientific study and more than 15 years of testing that clearly support the conclusion that the health of Jenkinson Lake is excellent. Furthermore, EID's Reservoir "A" plant, which treats water from the lake, already meets all current and foreseeable state and EPA treatment requirements.


Passage of SB 197, and thus removal of provision (a)(1) from HSC Section 115842, recognizes these findings. The benefit to customers throughout El Dorado County is a savings of tens of millions of dollars to construct a treatment plant that is simply not needed.

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We urge you to cast your vote in favor of passage of SB 197 when it comes up for consideration before your Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Winkler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Edward D. Winkler  
Executive Director

cc RWA Board of Directors  
Senator Dave Cox  
Assemblymember Tim Leslie  
Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife  
Ron Davis, ACWA  
John Fraser, El Dorado Irrigation District  
Ane Deister, El Dorado Irrigation District