



**Sacramento Groundwater Authority**  
*Managing Groundwater Resources  
 in Northern Sacramento County*

5620 Birdcage Street, Suite 180  
 Citrus Heights, CA 95610

Tel: (916) 967-7692  
 Fax: (916) 967-7322  
 www.sgah2o.org

April 14, 2005

Edward D. Winkler  
 Executive Director

Honorable Dave Cox  
 California State Senate  
 State Capitol  
 Sacramento, California 95814

California-American  
 Water Company

Carmichael  
 Water District

Citrus Heights  
 Water District

City of Citrus Heights

City of Folsom

City of Sacramento

County of Sacramento

Del Paso Manor  
 Water District

Fair Oaks Water District

Natomas Central Mutual  
 Water Company

Orange Vale  
 Water Company

Linda / Elverta  
 Community Water  
 District

Sacramento Suburban  
 Water District

San Juan  
 Water District

Southern California  
 Water Company

Agricultural and  
 Self-Supplied  
 Representative

Dear Senator Cox,

**Subject: Support for SB 773**

On behalf of the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA), I am pleased to support SB 773.

The SGA is a joint powers authority created by agreement between the cities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, Sacramento, and the County of Sacramento to exercise their commonly held police powers to manage the groundwater basin underlying Sacramento County north of the American River.

SB 773 is intended to clarify the ability of water agencies to use innovative technologies, such as aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) facilities, to help meet water supply needs. ASR programs take excess surface water when it is plentiful and store it in the groundwater aquifer for use when surface water supplies are limited. ASR programs allow use of groundwater during dry years without reducing strained groundwater supplies.

While ASR projects are in operation in many areas of California and throughout the United States, the Central Valley is just beginning to consider this type of conjunctive use operation. Regional Boards throughout California have different approaches to ASR projects. Staff for the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has raised a number of regulatory issues that would limit the use of ASR. SB 773 would address this problem and provide for extensive reporting and monitoring of ASR projects.

This bill would benefit the SGA and its members by helping us to manage, protect, and sustain our valuable groundwater resources. If you have any questions about this issue or our support for SB 773, please contact me at (916) 967-7692.

Sincerely,

Edward D. Winkler  
 Executive Director

c.c. SGA Chair and Board of Directors  
 Senate Committee on Environmental Quality  
 ACWA