

POSITION PAPERS

February 8, 2005

John Litwinovich
Community Services Director
El Dorado County
937 Spring Street
Placerville CA 95667

Dear Mr. Litwinovich:

The El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the application of the County of El Dorado for funding under the State Department of Housing and Community Development, California Community Economic Enterprise Funds program. The proposed Microenterprise Technical Assistance and Business Loan Fund program will assist low-income individuals and local businesses in their needs and be a valuable tool for improving the economic base of El Dorado County.

The El Dorado County Chamber will assist the County in the recruitment and prescreening for eligible applicants. We will also assist in marketing this program and providing coordination of trainings and other support services necessary to ensure participation in this program.

We estimate the commitment provided to this program by our publications and use of our Business Resource Center will equate to at least \$1500.00 of in-kind contribution over the two-year duration of the grant.

Sincerely,

Laurel Brent-Bumb
Chief Executive Officer

El Dorado County Residents Come Together to Support Local Business

In response to the derogatory messages that have greeted residents and tourists alike on highway 50 for the last several months, diverse groups from across El Dorado County have come together to support local business, and welcome everyone, tourists and residents alike...to live, shop, and play in our community.

Local churches, community organizations, students and business owners have come together to say El Dorado County welcomes everyone, regardless of their gender, religious background, sexual orientation, age, disability or ethnicity. We are a community that respects the rights of all and stand firm in our efforts to be tolerant, inclusive, and civil to all of our neighbors.

The Placerville City Council has unanimously proclaimed Placerville to be a Hate-free zone!

Public rallies are scheduled for every Sunday in support of this proclamation. We stand together to put forth a positive, inclusive message to visitors and residents. Please join our efforts.

Every Sunday

2:00pm to 5:00pm

Main Street Courthouse Steps

It's time we stand together against discrimination. We cannot allow businesses to be targets because they welcome everyone in their establishments. While our differences may define us, our common humanity brings us together. We want visitors to our community to feel safe and welcome.

Item II, C, 1

El Dorado County General Plan

Recommended Action: Support Land Use/Natural Resources Committee recommendation to endorse Measure B and oppose Measure D.

Background

State planning law requires that every county adopt and maintain a general plan (i.e. a blueprint) to guide development within the county to address and balance the competing interests of the community. A general plan contains county policy with respect to seven subjects: land use, circulation/transportation, housing, conservation, open space, noise and safety. A county may also address other issues such as parks, public service and economic development.

In January of 1996, the El Dorado County board of supervisors adopted a general plan. In February, 1999, the El Dorado County Taxpayers for Responsible Growth successfully sued the county in Superior Court, which found the county had not adequately complied with the California Environmental Quality Act. Certification of the general plan was set aside and growth in the county restricted until a new general plan could be adopted.

After a significant period of public outreach, the El Dorado County board of supervisors adopted a new general plan on July 19, 2004. The general plan must be certified by the Superior Court to have the writ removed.

In the meantime however, two competing ballot measure have emerged and will be on the March, 2004 El Dorado County ballot which will have impacts on the general plan.

Measure B

A referendum asking voters to approve the general plan adopted by the El Dorado County board of supervisors in July.

Measure D

An initiative to amend the county charter to: 1. prohibit the county from adopting the general plan if traffic congestion on Highway 50 west of Placerville reaches service level "F" during peak commute hour periods; and, 2. requires the board of supervisors to postpone approving single family residential subdivisions of three or more parcels until Highway 50 is widened to 8 lanes between Cameron Park and the Sacramento county line.

Analysis

Clearly, Measure D is a red herring designed to prohibit growth in El Dorado County. The 8 lane requirement on Highway 50 is clearly out of the realm of possibility for decades if ever. Measure D was placed in the ballot by the same group of environmental

activists that brought suit on the general plan in 1996 and has stifled residential and commercial growth in the county.

El Dorado County has not participated in the SACOG Blueprint process to date, since doing so would have jeopardized the already fragile general plan process. Enacting the general plan approved by the board of supervisors will allow El Dorado County to grow at a reasonable pace, consistent with the desires of the local residents. Future general plan amendments will allow El Dorado County leaders to employ the planning principles contained in Blueprint should they desire.

Measure B is a referendum intended to serve as a counterweight to Measure D, to protect the work of the board and the community.

Argument in Support of Measure B

After years of hard work and significant public input, the El Dorado County board of supervisors adopted a general plan that meets the needs of the public and the requirements set out by the Superior Court. Measure D will overturn the board's work, setting the community back to square one and cost the county millions of dollars.

Organizations in support of Measure B

El Dorado County, Shingle Springs, El Dorado Hills chambers of commerce, El Dorado Builders Exchange, BIA of Superior California.

Arguments in Support of Measure D

The reasons for the referendum are to prevent very substantial traffic overloads and environmental impacts. The EIR showed that the adopted General Plan was the most extreme and unbalanced of all alternatives considered, deliberately focusing on growth in housing and population. Forecasts in the EIR predict that at daily vehicle hours of delay at build out will be 40 times higher than in 1999, the year used to define "existing conditions" in the EIR.

Organizations in Support of Measure D

El Dorado County Taxpayers for responsible Growth

Staff recommendation

Support El Dorado County Measure B on the March, 2005 ballot. Oppose El Dorado County Measure D on the March, 2005 ballot. Encourage Metro Chamber members to support the Measure B and contribute to the campaign.

Committee recommendation

At the request of the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce, the Metro Chamber Land Use and Natural Resource Committee considered both measures at its September, 2004 meeting. The committee recommended a support position on Measure B and an oppose position on Measure D.

El Dorado County Chamber
Legislative Position 2005

- Support Measure C - Proposed Cameron Park Community Center (contingent upon ratification by respective boards)
- Support AB 20 – Disabled Persons – in concept - Addresses Frivolous lawsuits regarding ADA compliance. Motion to support, in concept, Leslie in his efforts to seek remedy while considering the limitations of the disabled. Smith/Stohl. MP. Contingent upon ratification by respective boards. Further action to be taken upon receipt of final language.
- Support Library Measures (F, G, & H), contingent upon ratification by respective boards - Measures F, G & H support continued increased funding for libraries in SLT, Georgetown and Pollock Pines respectively.
- Support sending letter to Governor recommending that the Sierra Nevada Conservancy headquarters be located in EDC
- Conceptually support resolution in support of reopening Folsom Dam Road
- Support SB 197 – Sly Park Reservoir body contact exemption
- Conceptually support letter to Board of Supervisors regarding General Plan
- Support letter to Governor regarding tourism marketing funds
- Support continued sponsorship of Lest We Forget event
- Support SBC/AT&T merger
- Oppose SB840 - Single Payer Health Care Coverage (Kuehl)
- Support broad concept of SB655 Asbestos Task Force
- Support to send another letter restating Joint Chamber's support of SB 197 body contact exemption
- Oppose AB 1715, - Regional Chambers Coalition has opposed moving San Quentin inmates to Folsom. EDC Chamber has already voted to oppose, awaiting concurrence from EDH
- Support resolution supporting new Sacramento-area sport Arena, awaiting concurrence from EDH
- Oppose SB 655 – Ortiz asbestos bill
- Support proposition 75 the Governors Union workers

January 27, 2005

Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
California State Governor
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Sierra Nevada Conservancy Headquarters Location

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

On November 30, 2004 the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors wrote you requesting the locating of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy headquarters in El Dorado County. Their letter included Board Resolution 364-2004 stipulating the reasons why El Dorado County would be an ideal location for this new conservancy.

El Dorado County is located in the Central Sierra sub-region specified within the Act, and due to the location of ideal sites in close proximity to Highway 50, we would encourage you to thoughtfully consider the location of the headquarters in our county. Adding the fact that El Dorado County is the site of gold discovery in California and it all started here makes this the perfect location.

We agree with your signing message that stated "Since well over half of lands in the Sierra have been in public ownership for decades, future success will involve projects that do not necessarily require land acquisition. We need to act creatively to conserve the region's irreplaceable natural resources, serve visitors from all over the world, reduce threats to the region such as wildfire, maintain the viability of working landscapes, conserve the region's unique cultural and historical resources and preserve the character of the region's landscape and communities."

We support our local elected officials as they seek to provide leadership on land use issues. Our ideal centrally located headquarters would provide the opportunity for local and regional input into the process of the conservancy's decision-making. We believe this is consistent with your desires to forge new alliances while managing our valuable natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

Laurel Brent-Bumb, CEO

cc: Honorable Tim Leslie, Assembly District 4
Senator Dave Cox, Senate District 1
Secretary Mike Chrisman, Resources Agency
Charlie Paine, Chair, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
Allen Zaremberg, President, CEO California State Chamber

Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County

RESOLUTION TO OPEN FOLSOM DAM ROAD



El Dorado County
542 Main Street
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5885 • Fax: (530) 642-1624
Toll-Free: (800) 457-6279
www.eldoradocounty.org

In February 2003, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Homeland Security closed the road traversing the Folsom Dam. This action diverted 18,000 automobiles and trucks daily on to surface streets within the city of Folsom and surrounding areas causing traffic delays and congestion. These delays and congestion have caused both severe and negative economic consequences to business establishments and a lowering of the quality of life to citizens because of lost time, increased air pollution, noise and increased traffic accidents.



El Dorado Hills
P.O. Box 5605
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762
(916) 933-1335 • Fax: (916) 933-5908
edhchamber@edhchamber.org

The Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County, including the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce, the Shingle Springs-Cameron Park Chamber of Commerce and the El Dorado Hills Chamber of Commerce, respectfully submit this resolution to re-open the road traversing Folsom Dam, at a minimum as a commute-only schedule while ensuring the security of the Folsom Dam until the new bridge is completed.



Shingle Springs/Cameron Park
P.O. Box 341
Shingle Springs, CA 95682
(530) 677-8000 • Fax: (530) 676-8313

It is also anticipated that the Regional Chambers of Commerce will follow the leadership presented by the El Dorado Joint Chambers Commission at their meeting scheduled on Tuesday, February 15, 2005 and pass a similar resolution.

Passed this 14th day of February 2005.

El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce
Shingle Springs/Cameron Park Chamber El Dorado Hills Chamber

Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County

Department of the Interior
Secretary Gale Norton
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240



El Dorado County

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Shingle Springs/Cameron Park

P.O. Box 341
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(530) 677-8000 • Fax: (530) 676-8313

Re: Folsom Dam Road Access Restriction

Dear Secretary Norton:

The Joint Chambers Commission representing nearly 1,600 businesses and more than 8,000 employees in El Dorado County, asks that you order the Folsom Dam Road be reopened, at minimum on a restricted basis (commute hours-two way traffic).

Many factors require us to take the position we do:

- Traffic impact: 20,000 cars per day detoured
- Air Quality impact: additional miles and congested alternative routes lead to much greater impact than estimated in your draft
- Negative Economic impact: Loss of business, business closings and lost jobs due to disrupted traffic patterns and congestion region-wide
- Deterioration of Quality of Life impact: increase commute times, congested streets and problems getting to and from everyday family events lead to a lower quality of life for all
- Public Safety impact: Longer response times lead to unnecessary injuries and deaths.

According to the Executive Summary of the "Draft Environmental Impact Statement", page ES-1, the purpose and need for closure of the Folsom Dam Road is:

- Control access to Folsom Dam... and;
- Minimize the security risks and maximize the safety of Folsom Dam...

We firmly believe that opening the road to peak period two-way traffic under EIS Alternative 2 with security, including vehicle inspections, by the Folsom Police Department would provide equal, and possibly superior security to that contemplated under the presently Preferred Alternative. Nowhere in the document are security forces, presently in place or contemplated under the Preferred Alternative, shown to be anywhere near the level called for under Alternative 2.

If security is truly the goal, armed police officers on the road are a much greater deterrent than passive barriers.

Further, it appears that a feasible alternative route to the Dam Road will be available within 24-30 months...the Folsom Dam Bridge. Through cooperation between the Bureau and the City Folsom this could be made a reality within the shortest possible time. After 50 years of the Folsom Dam being used as a major route linking burgeoning communities in El Dorado, Sacramento and Placer Counties, it seems quite reasonable for the City of Folsom and the Bureau to cooperate on a restricted flow of traffic (Alt. 2) over the Dam for two more years while cooperating on getting the replacement bridge built. **This would be a shining example of good governance.**

We await your response and hope that not only your security objectives may be achieved, but also reasonable decisions are made to benefit all citizens.

Respectfully,

Laurel Brent-Bumb
Chief Executive Officer
On behalf of:

El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce
Shingle Springs/Cameron Park Chamber El Dorado Hills Chamber

Cc: Bureau of Reclamation
Commissioner John Keys
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240-0001

Cc: Bureau of Reclamation
Federal Office Building
Kirk C. Rogers, Director
Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

Cc: Bureau of Reclamation
Robert Schroeder, Project Manager
Central California Office
7749 Folsom-Auburn Road
Folsom, CA 95630-1799

Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County



Senator Alan Lowenthal
Chairman, Senate Committee on Environmental Quality
State Capitol, Room 3048
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Senator Lowenthal,

I am writing on behalf of the El Dorado County Joint Chambers Commission that represents nearly 1,600 businesses and more than 8,000 employees in El Dorado County to encourage you to support SB 197. This bill was introduced in the Senate on February 10, 2005, by Senator Dave Cox and co-authored by Assemblyman Tim Leslie.

SB 197 removed provision (a)(1) from the California Health and Safety Code (HSC) Section 115842. That provision essentially calls for a new treatment plant that could 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 our county and thus a source of much needed revenue from visitor expenditures at local businesses. Swimming is a traditional use at Jenkinson Lake.

The lake is also a source of drinking water for many residents in El Dorado County, and like the EID Board of Directors, we think the health and safety of the drinking water supply is of utmost importance. EID points to a new, scientific study and more than 15 years of testing that clearly support a significant conclusion: 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. It would also save EID customers, and they are most of us in El Dorado County, tens of millions of dollars to construct a treatment plant that is simply not needed.

In our county, we are blessed with some of the naturally cleanest water in the state. Like other counties east of Sacramento, much of our supply originates high in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. As the major supplier of water in the county, EID has worked hard to meet all regulatory requirements and ensure that our valuable water resource remains safe. This includes years of testing and monitoring at Jenkinson Lake with all its traditional uses, including body contact.

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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. We also ask you to encourage your colleagues to support the bill before the full Senate.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Laurel Brent – Bumb
Chief Executive Officer
On behalf of:

El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce
Shingle Springs/Cameron Park Chamber El Dorado Hills Chamber

Cc: Senator Dave Cox
State Capitol, Room 2068
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cc: Assemblyman Tim Leslie
State Capitol, Room 4164
Sacramento, CA 94249-004

Cc: El Dorado Irrigation District
Attn: Carrie Rasmussen
2890 Mosquito Road
Placerville, CA 95667

Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County



April 21, 2005

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El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Dear Supervisors,



The El Dorado County Joint Chambers Commission would like to commend you on your efforts to move the 2004 General Plan forward.

We appreciate the daunting task ahead of you and the County staff. As the County moves forward with implementation of the General Plan there will be many challenges to meet.

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The Joint Chambers Commission continues to share in the enthusiasm of the community to bring the General Plan to fruition. To that end, we will continue to work with you, our elected officials, and the many supporting organizations and people that helped to pass measure B. We believe through our continued commitment and support our common goal is within reach.



We look forward to continued progress with the implementation and to working with you to plan for El Dorado County's future with a carefully thought-out, well-managed General Plan.

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Sincerely,

Laurel Brent-Bumb
Chief Executive Officer
On behalf of;

El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce
Shingle Springs/Cameron Park Chamber El Dorado Hills Chamber

Sacramento
REGIONAL CHAMBER COALITION

Resolution

Position
Oppose AB 1715 (Nation)

WHEREAS, California state law requires that all Death Row inmates be housed at San Quentin State Prison; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections currently houses Death Row inmates at San Quentin State Prison; and

WHEREAS, San Quentin State Prison is the location of California's Death Row; and

WHEREAS, AB 1715 (Nation) would allow the Director of Corrections to house Death Row inmates at ten additional facilities within the California correctional system that maintain a level 4 security rating; and

WHEREAS, California State Prison, Sacramento is currently a Level IV security facilities; and

WHEREAS, AB 1715 (Nation) would allow California's Death Row to move to California State Prison, Sacramento located near the City of Folsom, California; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Regional Chamber Coalition opposes AB 1715 (Nation).

Dated: _____

Wendell Smith, Chair
Regional Chamber Coalition

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REGIONAL CHAMBER COALITION

Resolution

A New Sports and Entertainment Facility is Needed

WHEREAS, the Regional Chamber Coalition recognizes that the Sacramento Kings are an important economic and community asset to the Sacramento Region; and

WHEREAS, the Kings need a functioning sports and entertainment to play; and

WHEREAS, Arco Arena was built quickly, inexpensively and cannot be practically renovated; and

WHEREAS, Arco Arena is or will soon be obsolete; and

WHEREAS, losing the Kings would signify a devastating loss to the entire Sacramento region; and

WHEREAS, the Kings will likely move if a new Sports and Entertainment facility is not built in the Sacramento region; and

WHEREAS, a new, modern Sports and Entertainment facility with world class amenities would be an economic and civic asset to the entire Sacramento Region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Regional Chamber Coalition supports the position that a new Sports and Entertainment facility is needed.

Dated: _____

Wendell Smith, Chair
Regional Chamber Coalition

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Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County

August 12, 2005



The Honorable Deborah Ortiz
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 655 – OPPOSE (As amended July 7, 2005)

Dear Senator Ortiz:

On behalf of the Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County representing over 1,600 member businesses I am writing to express our opposition to your Senate Bill 655, which would establish the Asbestos Hazards Mapping Act.

SB 655 would require cities and counties, prior to approval of a project located in an asbestos hazard zone, to have a geo-technical report prepared to determine if there are any known asbestos hazards. Additionally, this bill would require the State Mining and Geology Board to develop specific procedures and guidelines for asbestos hazard mapping and mitigation. Furthermore, each city and county would be required, prior to preparing; adopting or revising developmental plans, to take into account the information outlined in the asbestos hazard maps.

Allowing the Board to develop procedures for asbestos hazard mapping and to review mitigation measures would restrict land use decisions by local government and generate unnecessary litigation.

While we share the concerns about the potential risks associated with living, working and playing in areas with naturally occurring asbestos, we strongly believe that the approach taken in the July version of the bill moves in the direction of creating greater potential for public confusion and uncertainty as well as unnecessary conflict in the in the development process. In fact what is needed is better public information and education.

For the above reasons, we are opposed to SB 655 (Ortiz).

Sincerely,

Laurel Brent-Bumb
Chief Executive Officer
On behalf of;

El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce
Shingle Springs/Cameron Park Chamber El Dorado Hills Chamber

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Joint Chambers Position Summary 2005

- ▪ Support Measure C - Proposed Cameron Park Community Center
- ▪ Support AB 20 – Disabled Persons – in concept - Addresses Frivolous lawsuits regarding ADA compliance. Motion to support, in concept, Leslie in his efforts to seek remedy while considering the limitations of the disabled. Smith/Stohl. MP. Contingent upon ratification by respective boards. Further action to be taken upon receipt of final language.
- ▪ Support Library Measures (F, G, H & L), Measures F, G & H support continued increased funding for libraries in SLT, Georgetown and Pollock Pines respectively.
- ▪ Support sending letter to Governor recommending that the Sierra Nevada Conservancy headquarters be located in EDC
- ▪ Conceptually support resolution in support of reopening Folsom Dam Road
- ▪ Support SB 197 – Sly Park Reservoir body contact exemption
- ▪ Conceptually support letter to Board of Supervisors regarding General Plan
- ▪ Support letter to Governor regarding tourism marketing funds
- ▪ Support continued sponsorship of Lest We Forget event
- ▪ Support SBC/AT&T merger
- ▪ Oppose SB840 - Single Payer Health Care Coverage (Kuehl)
- ▪ Support broad concept of SB655 Asbestos Task Force
- ▪ Support to send a letter restating Joint Chamber's support of SB 197 body contact exemption for Sly Park
- ▪ Oppose AB 1715, - Regional Chambers Coalition has opposed moving San Quentin inmates to Folsom. EDC Chamber has voted to oppose
- Support resolution supporting new Sacramento-area sport Arena, awaiting concurrence from EDH
- Support Propositions, 75,76,77

Joint Chambers Commission of El Dorado County

June 30, 2005



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Dave Hanson, Project Manager
SMUD – Hydro Re-licensing
Iowa Hill Pumped Storage Power Plant
P. O. Box 15830
Sacramento, CA 95852-1830



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RE: Proposed Iowa Hill Power Plant – Upper American River Project (UARP) Re-licensing, Federal Energy Regulator Commission (FERC) Project 2101

Dear Mr. Hanson,

The El Dorado County Joint Chambers Commission represents more than 1,600 member businesses and over 8,000 employees. Many of our member businesses manage agri-tourism operations in the Apple Hill region. We are concerned about the potential impacts that the Iowa Hill project would have on our members during its construction. It is clearly in the community's best interest to have adequate supplies of affordable energy. Clean hydroelectric power is especially valuable for our energy future.

The Iowa Hill project was considered many years ago. Since that time there has been substantial residential and agricultural development in the area around the proposed project. An important development has been in the Apple Hill Growers' ranch marketing program. Our agri-tourism businesses rely heavily on on-site crop sales, and the limited roads in the Apple Hill area are their main connection to the consumers who buy their products. During the peak season in the fall, customers heavily travel the roads in the Camino area. The high volume of customers is essential to the success of the ranch marketing, agri-tourism program each year. Traffic disruptions during this period adversely impact the volume of customers and could present very real safety issues.



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Although we fully support the development of new electrical facilities, we believe that inadequate analysis has been completed thus far to identify the impacts of the project on the community. Furthermore, we believe it is important to address the impact that construction will have on the Apple Hill growers' operations, potential road safety issues and the community as a whole.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Iowa Hill Power Plant and urge you to address our concerns.

Sincerely,

Laurel Brent-Bumb
Chief Executive Officer
On behalf of:

El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce
Shingle Springs/Cameron Park Chamber
El Dorado Hills Chamber

cc: Magalie R. Salas, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

Jack Sweeney, Chairman
El Dorado Water & Power Authority
330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667

Karen Mills, Public Utilities Department
Legal Services Division
California Farm Bureau Federation
2300 River Plaza Drive
Sacramento, CA 95833

Maryann Argyres, President
Apple Hill Growers Association
P. O. Box 494
Camino, CA 95709