

November 29, 2021

California State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Water Rights

Attn: Administrative Hearing Office

PO Box 2000

Sacramento, CA, 95812-2000

Transmitted Via Electronic Upload on Date Shown

Final Comment of the Redway Community Services District in the Matter of the Protest of the Petition for Change of the Garberville Sanitary District for the Southern Humboldt Community Park, License 3034, Application 9686, and Permit 20789.

Dear California State Water Resources Control Board, Administrative Hearing Office:

RCSD has and continues to maintain that GSD's proposed petition for change to provide an out of service area water connection to facilitate drinking water fountains at the SHCP is inappropriate and contrary to public comment. The question at hand still remains, whether or not GSD's petition for change is proper and is in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and is in the public interest. In our November 25th, 2019, letter, as well as our July 9th, 2021, letter to the Administrative Hearing Office there was concern raised by RCSD about the organizational structure and the transparency of the entity operating the SHCP as its Board of Directors.

Once again, the District would like to add that SHCP does not hold meetings that are open to the public, or that are publicly noticed. The closure of these meetings to the general public thwarts the transparency in deliberation and decision making by the Southern Humboldt Community Park Board. Thus, it is impossible for the community to know whether the current proposal embodied by the petition for change are presented in good faith on the part of the SHCP. One of the other issues is that the general consensus of the Board of Directors and upper management for the Redway CSD is the concerns of volumetric expansion of the connection and the impact to the downstream users of the river as a water source.

The primary concern remains, which is that the Park will exceed the allocated volumetric usage and GSD will not have regulatory practices in place, which are necessary in order to help enforce volumetric limitations. There continues to be rightful worry that is very concerning to our District in regard to the South Fork of the Eel River that has been dramatically affected by the worsening droughts that California faces each summer, seem to be the new norm. This must be taken into consideration by the hearing office. Our facilities, and our rate-paying customers are immediately downstream of the GSD and its operations.

Therefore, the actions taken by GSD directly impact our facilities, and our rate-paying customers. In our hearing testimony Summary Letter dated June 2, 2021, RCSD described how the current trend of record historically low flows and the stage height of the South Fork of the Eel River directly and adversely impact the operations of our facilities, and thereby our rate-paying customers. In conclusion, given the increasingly limited available volume and flow levels in the South Fork of the Eel River, our shared community water source, the quality and beneficial uses of those waters must be taken into even greater account when planning for and allocating for use and distribution of water resources of the State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cody Cox', with a stylized, looping flourish at the end.

Cody Cox

RCSD General Manager