



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

September 21, 2007

Subcommittee on Water & Power
1522 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Attn: Mrs. Grace F. Napolitano, Chairwoman

Re: HR 2535, Tule River Tribe Water Development Act

Dear Chairwoman Napolitano:

The Tule River Association, representing all water rights holders at and below Success Reservoir, have been engaged for the past nine years, along with the South Tule Independent Ditch Company and riparians along the South Fork Tule River, with the Tule River Indian Tribe in the negotiation and settlement of the reserved water rights of the Tule River Indian Reservation.

We are pleased to inform you that the Tule River Association fully supports HR 2535, and as of 16 August 2007 accepted and agreed to the terms and conditions of the "Tule River Tribe Reserved Water Rights Settlement Agreement Among the Tule River Indian Tribe, the Tule River Association and the South Tule Independent Ditch Company" (Settlement Agreement). The Settlement Agreement quantifies and establishes all of the reserved water rights of 5,828 a.f. per year of South Fork Tule River water to the Tule River Indian Reservation for the reasonable and beneficial uses on the Reservation.

Although the Agreement has not been executed by the parties, ratified by the Congress or the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California, the parties to the Agreement have accepted and approved the Settlement Agreement.

We would appreciate your accepting this letter in lieu of personal testimony and request that the letter be entered in the record during the hearing to be conducted 25 September 2007 on HR 2535.

Very truly yours,

R. L. Schafer

RLS/mep

cc: Congressman Devin Nunes
Congressman Jim Costa
Congressman George Miller

TRA Directors
Alec Garfield, TRTC
Tom Rodgers