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April 12, 2015

The Honorable Susan Eggman
State Capitol, Room 3173
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0013

Electronic Copy – Hard copy to follow

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South Tahoe Public Utility
District (STPUD)

Tuolumne Utilities District
(TUD)

Twain Harte Community
Services District (THCSD)

Re: AB 647 – SUPPORT, if AMENDED

Dear Assembly Member Eggman:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on AB 647. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA), I write to express our support for AB647, if amended.

MCWRA advocates for the water interests of its members in all or a portion of 15 mountain counties from the southern tip of Lassen County to Fresno County.

We are encouraged by the intent of AB647 to declare that the recharging of a groundwater basin for the purposes of repelling saline intrusion and recovering basin groundwater levels constitutes a beneficial use of water, which we support.

As AB647 moves forward, it would be helpful and important to clarify its intent to eliminate concern and confusion. We propose the following language to Section 1242 of the Water Code:

1. No changes to the first sentence,
2. **ADD:** *The recharging of a groundwater basin by a local groundwater management agency or a local groundwater sustainability agency for the purposes of repelling saline intrusion and recovering basin groundwater levels, including the diversion of streams, the flowing of water on lands, or other similar means necessary for the accomplishment of groundwater recharge for these purposes, constitutes a beneficial use of water if the local agency has determined that the recharge is consistent with the local agency's groundwater management plan or groundwater sustainability plan.*

I am available if you would like to discuss this matter further. If you have any questions, I can be reached at 530.957.7879.

Sincerely,



John Kingsbury, Executive Director
Mountain Counties Water Resources Association

c: Board of Directors, Mountain Counties Water Resources Association

The Honorable:

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