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June 11, 2015

The Honorable Jose Medina  
 California State Capitol, Room 5135  
 P.O. Box 942849  
 Sacramento, CA 94249-0061

Re: AB 291; California Environmental Quality Act: Local agencies: notice of determination water - **SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Medina:

On behalf of the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA), I write to express our support for AB 291.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment.

CEQA requires a local agency that approves or determines to carry out a project subject to CEQA to file a notice of the approval or determination with the county clerk of each county in which the project will be located and requires the county clerk to make the notice available for public inspection.

AB 291 would authorize a local agency, for certain water projects, to file the notice with the county clerk of the county in which the local agency's principal office and with the Office of Planning and Research, and to mail a copy of the notice to the county clerks of the counties in which the water project is located.

The proposed language is a practical approach that will help streamline the CEQA notification process and MCWRA supports AB 291.

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:

Assembly Member Frank Bigelow  
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Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Assembly Member Brian Dahle  
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Assembly Member James Gallagher  
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Senator Tom Berryhill  
California State Capitol, Room 3076  
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Senator Ted Gaines  
California State Capitol, Room 3070  
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Senator Jim Neilsen  
California State Capitol, Room 2068  
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