

# County of El Dorado

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330 FAIR LANE PLACERVILLE, CA 95667  
TELEPHONE (530) 621-5390  
FAX NO. (530) 622-3645



June 29, 2007

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of California  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Angora Fire Response and Recovery - Request for State-Managed Debris Cleanup

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

As the Chairman of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, I wish to express our sincere appreciation for the superior level of emergency response assistance provided to the residents of El Dorado County by all the state agencies in the wake of the Angora Fire in South Lake Tahoe. The expertise and energy of the strong state support teams, along with our local and cooperating emergency responders and volunteers from many regional organizations, have assisted our community during a potentially devastating disaster.

To secure the same superior level of management during our recovery efforts, the following agencies have formed a Multiagency Coordinating (MAC) team with the goal of developing a plan to remove structural debris and ash from residences that were either completely or partially destroyed by the Angora Fire:

Cal/EPA:

Integrated Waste Management Board  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region  
Department of Toxic Substance Control

El Dorado County Environmental Management

Solid Waste Management  
Hazardous Materials Division  
Air Quality Management Control  
South Tahoe Refuse Co., Industry Representative

The plan that has been developed by the MAC team is based on these objectives:

1. Identify the volume of debris for removal.
2. Determine the waste characterization of debris for removal, transportation and disposal purposes.
3. Identify a mechanism to collect and transport the debris for disposal.
4. Coordinate with individual homeowners.

The MAC team has identified that a state-managed debris cleanup in collaboration with the County to be the most desirable and efficient manner to proceed in the recovery phase. State staff members who have experience with similar management plans understand the environmental conditions related to fire debris cleanup and have



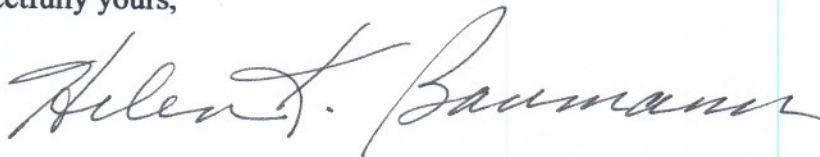
The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger  
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proven resources needed to readily implement this plan. County staff understands the unique physical and regulatory environment of the Lake Tahoe basin and will work closely with the MAC team members to address the immediate and long range needs of the impacted citizens and environment. Preliminary cost estimates for cleanup based on historical wildfire data and the unique environmental concerns for the Tahoe area are estimated at \$7 million.

Many of the preliminary risk assessments and health protection requirements of this plan have already been implemented. The MAC team is moving forward with each task with an organized protocol because time is truly of the essence. The immediate removal of the solid waste debris will prevent potential post disaster injuries in an area that is structurally unstable (i.e., burned out cars, destroyed fireplaces) and considerable rebuilding activities (i.e., reinstating power lines, natural gas). As a result of the Angora fire, serious health and safety hazards currently exist from fire debris, including unstable chimneys, walls of fire damaged structures, and harmful chemicals that are likely to remain on affected parcels. These hazards require immediate attention and constitute a local emergency. The construction period is very limited in the Tahoe Basin and concludes annually on October 15. In addition, the prompt and controlled removal of the structural debris from this fire will significantly reduce the potential for degradation of Lake Tahoe due to runoff from normally occurring summer thunderstorms, which typically start in June. Ash and potential water runoff may have direct contact with creeks that run through the impacted area, thereby creating an adverse environmental impact. These creeks are considered major contributories to the North Truckee River, which is a concern of sedimentation to Lake Tahoe. Finally, prompt removal will also protect the basin's air quality and, ultimately, will enable the impacted residents to move forward with their plans and dreams for rebuilding their lives within a reasonable time period.

We ask that you continue to assist us in protecting our magnificent and treasured Lake Tahoe with your support for the proposed state-managed debris cleanup plan.

Respectfully yours,



Helen K. Baumann  
Chairman, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

C: Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi  
U. S. Senator Diane Feinstein  
U. S. Senator Barbara Boxer  
U. S. Representative John T. Doolittle  
State Senator Dave Cox  
State Assemblyman Ted Gaines  
Linda S. Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection  
Henry R. Renteria, Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
Paul Jacks, Deputy Director Response & Recovery  
Don Johnson, Cal-EPA



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June 29, 2007

Mr. Henry R. Renteria  
Director, Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
3650 Schriever Avenue  
Mather, California 95655

Re: Angora Fire Response and Recovery - Request for State-Managed Debris Cleanup

Dear Director Renteria:

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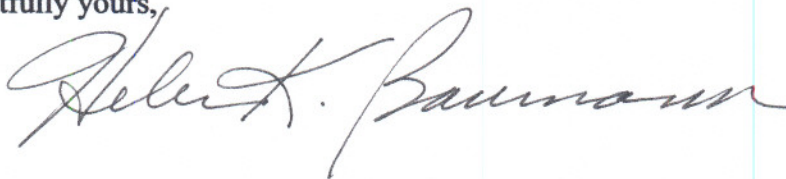
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