COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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October 28, 2009

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

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors strongly encourages you and the Legislature to reconsider the provisions of Senate Bill 670 (Wolk) pertaining to suction dredging.

As you know SB 670 designates the issuance of suction dredge permits as a project under CEQA, suspends the issuance of new permits, and prohibits previously permitted dredging until the Department of Fish and Game completes an environmental impact report. As a County immersed in land resource issues and Gold Rush history, we are confident that the environmental and economic benefits of suction dredging have been hastily overlooked in this legislation.

After nearly two hours of public testimony detailing the benefits of suction dredging, the Board of Supervisors adopted the enclosed Resolution No. 223-2009 at our October 6, 2009 meeting. We encourage your careful consideration of this information, and hope that your Administration will work to repeal this unwarranted legislation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance to you regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Raymond J. Nutting, Vice Chairman El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

cc:

The Honorable Dave Cox
The Honorable Ted Gaines
The Honorable Alyson Huber
The Honorable Patricia Wiggins

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Cc: The Honorable Ted Gaines
Congressman Tom McClintock
Greg Norton, CEO, Regional Council of Rural Counties
Paul McIntosh, Executive Director, California State Association of Counties
Mike Pool, Director, Bureau of Land Management
John Koch, Director, California Department of Fish and Game
Tom Tidwell, Chief, United States Forest Service
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