

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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February 28, 2013

TO: Honorable Chair and Members of the Board of Supervisors

FR: Supervisor Norma Santiago, 530.621.6577, bosfive@edcgov.us

RE: In Support of Staff Recommendation, Agenda Item #24, March 5, 2013
DOT Tahoe Pollutant Load Reduction Plan, submitted to Lahontan Region
California Regional Water Quality Control Board,
NPDES Permit Board Order No. R6T-2011-101A1

Honorable Chair and Members of the Board:

I regret that I will miss giving you my in-person recommendation on this item since I am in Washington DC attending the National Association of Workforce Boards and the National Association of Counties annual conferences.

As you know, the Transportation staff has worked diligently with the Board over the course of 3 years striving to reach a fair and equitable agreement on a mandatory National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit with the Lahontan Region of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, and successfully achieved this goal through an appeal of the original permit in the process.

The Transportation Tahoe Engineering Unit staff was well researched in negotiating the appeal and deserves to be complimented and congratulated.

Before you now, for direction, is the Pollutant Load Reduction Plan outlining strategies to reduce baseline fine sediment loads by 10%, baseline total phosphorous loads by 8%, and baseline total nitrogen loads by 7%, fulfilling certain permit requirements through September 30, 2016.

I am in full agreement with Transportation's recommendation, knowing that beyond the discharge and pollutant reduction permit requirements, the County benefits greatly and uniquely by way of grant funds and new road construction in the implementation of its permit compliance. While we must certainly budget for additional NPDES regulation countywide, we are in the unique position of qualifying for additional funding through grants and collaborative construction efforts within the Tahoe Basin.

Thank you for allowing me this support and input from 3,000 miles away. I look forward to hearing of your positive approval of DOT staff recommendations on this item.