



BUTTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

COURTHOUSE
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SETH E. BEAL
KENT CUMMINS
BRIAN HARRELL

June 23, 2014

Richard Rigby

Re: Comments on Petition to Amend Rule 50

Mr. Rigby;

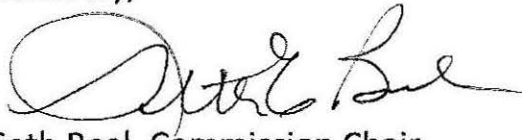
The Butte County Board of Commissioners would like to state our strong opposition to the proposed amendment to Rule 50 that would include Butte County above the present A-line in the administration of the Snake River Aquifer. Our people are suffering some of the worst drought conditions ever recorded. It is a terrible time to impose another threat to our already very restricted water supply. Our water supplies are less than adequate in the good water years. There are several reasons to deny this petition, the following are just a few.

1. The source of the water that feed the aquifer under Butte County comes from the mountains all around Water Districts 33 and 34. The proposal cuts the water shed and aquifer in half. There is no logic or fairness in that.
2. The science of the Lost Rivers is old and needs to be updated in view of the assumptions made by the models used.
3. There are many tributaries besides the Big and Little Lost Rivers. It is a violation of our equal protection guarantee in the Constitution to single us out in this matter.
4. There is a movement in the County to organize the ground water users into a district that can effectively speak for the ground water users in this kind of petition. It is only fair to allow the Butte County ground water users to get organized to fairly respond to this kind of move. The citizens here

should not be singled out and picked off because they are not yet organized to provide the experts and the data to adequately respond. We believe that there are good hydrological reasons and science that have not been addressed related to the relationship of the Lost Rivers and the Snake River Plain Aquifer.

For these and other reasons, the Butte County Board of Commissioners stand in opposition to the Clear Springs Foods, Inc. petition to amend Rule 50.

Sincerely,



Seth Beal, Commission Chair



Kent Cummins, Commissioner



Brian Harrell, Commissioner

Attest:

Trilby McAfee, Clerk to the Board of Commissioners