



May 17, 2010

The Honorable Juan Arambula
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2141
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2049

Position: Oppose

Dear Mr. Arambula:

The Kings River Water Association (KRWA) and the Kings River Conservation District (KRC D) have taken an oppose position regarding your bill AB 2049, an act to amend Section 1745.10 of the Water Code, relating to the State Water Resources Development System.

KRWA and KRC D are regional agencies that oversee the operation of the Kings River in the San Joaquin Valley of California. KRWA is an association comprised of the 28 public and private agencies with rights or entitlements to water from the Kings River. The KRWA manages those water entitlements and deliveries, and is engaged in various environmental enhancement and water quality-related projects. KRC D is a public agency responsible for flood control, power, on-farm water management, environmental programs and groundwater management.

We believe the proposed restrictions on long-term water transfers set forth in AB 2049 will limit water markets and the flexibility needed by farmers and water managers to ensure the best use of water during years that can vary from dry to wet. Restriction of water transfers can significantly impair economic viability of valley farmers and water districts. While we agree that protection of local water supplies is vital, this can better be accomplished through local efforts to implement groundwater and integrated regional water management plans.

Please contact us or our government relations representatives, Jackson R. Gualco or Kendra Daijogo at 916/441-1392 if you have any questions or comments regarding this correspondence.

Sincerely,

David Orth, General Manager
Kings River Conservation District

Steve Haugen, Watermaster
Kings River Water Association

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cc: Honorable Chair and Members, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
Mr. Jay Dickinson
Mr. Chris Holtz
Mr. Joseph Devlin
The Gualco Group, Inc.