

____ BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF LAKE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION NO. _____
RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONSORTIUM FORMED TO
ADDRESS THE REGION’S WATER SUPPLY AND THE ENDANGERED SALMON
SPECIES IN THE EEL RIVER AND UPPER RUSSIAN RIVER

WHEREAS, the Potter Valley Project is a small hydro power project consisting of two dams: (1) the Cape Horn Dam which impounds to river into the Van Arsdale Reservoir, and (2) the Scott Dam which creates the Lake Pillsbury Reservoir; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Jared Huffman brought all stakeholders together through the creation of a Potter Valley Ad Hoc Committee and that committee, which includes Lake County, Mendocino County, and Humboldt County among its participants, has developed a “Two-Basin Solution” with co-equal goals to minimize or avoid adverse impacts to water supply reliability, fisheries, water quality and recreation in the Russian and Eel River Basins, to respect tribal rights and their traditional connections to aquatic life, water and cultural resources in both basins, to minimize and mitigate adverse impacts to Lake County, including Lake Pillsbury businesses and residents, and to ensure accountable governance and financially viable operations, including addressing potential liabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Potter Valley Project is licensed through the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); and

WHEREAS, PG&E, the current Project licensee, applied for renewal of that license, but subsequently withdrew its application and FERC then issued a notice soliciting applications; and

WHEREAS, the Sonoma County Water Agency, the Mendocino Inland Water and Power Commission, California Trout, Inc. and the County of Humboldt, as a consortium of interested entities, timely filed a pre-application and notice of intent in response to FERC’s solicitation;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has previously indicated its support of that pre-application filing; and

WHEREAS, the County of Lake wishes to participate in a consortium with the Sonoma County Water Agency, the Mendocino Inland Water and Power Commission, California Trout, Inc., and the County of Humboldt in a planning agreement to address the region’s water supply and the endangered salmon species in the Eel River and the Upper Russian River; and

WHEREAS, said participation includes the participation in a feasibility study to determine viability of affected public entities forming a regional body to seek FERC permission to operate the Potter Valley Project.

WHEREAS, the coalition will commission a feasibility study to determine the efficacy of

public entities forming a regional body to seek FERC permission to operate the Potter Valley Project.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The County of Lake affirms its support of cooperative efforts to address all issues relating to the Potter Valley Project.
2. The County of Lake shall continue to participate in the Potter Valley Ad Hoc Committee created by Congressman Jared Huffman.
3. The County of Lake also intends to participate with the Sonoma County Water Agency, the Mendocino Inland Water and Power Commission, California Trout, Inc., and the County of Humboldt in a planning agreement to address the region's water supply and the endangered salmon species in the Eel River and the Upper Russian River.
4. The County of Lake further intends to pursue funding sources and potential in-kind contributions to participate in the above-described feasibility study with the understanding that such a study will consider a wide range of options to effect a Two-Basin Solution with co-equal goals.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Lake, State of California, at a regular meeting thereof on _____, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING:

CHAIR, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: CAROL J. HUCHINGSON
Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
ANITA L. GRANT
County Counsel

By: _____

By: _____