



## El Dorado Irrigation District

In Reply Refer To: E0296-086

February 7, 1996

Al Ortega  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
P.O. Box 15830  
Sacramento CA 95813

Subject: Swansboro Cross Canyon Pipeline  
Request for Reduction in River Flows  
Project No 94002

Dear Mr. Ortega:

The District is requesting from SMUD, a temporary reduction of flows in the South Fork American River below Slab Creek Reservoir for construction of a pipeline.

As you may know, the District owns and operates the water system for Swansboro. For many years the District has struggled with the declining production of the existing well system and the poor water quality caused from high iron concentrations. An extensive review of the alternatives showed that the best long-term water supply for Swansboro was to build a pipeline across the American River Canyon and connect it to the District's main system. The shortest route for the pipeline is to cross the canyon just downstream of Slab Creek Reservoir. The eight-inch pipeline is designed along North Canyon Road and down the SMUD gravel access road to the reservoir. The pipe will turn and follow the old concrete access road to the river. The pipe will be installed under the river and encased in concrete. Across the river, the pipeline will follow the old construction access roads, turn above the dam, and then north up the slope to Swansboro.

The District has met with Stafford Lehr, from Fish and Game, to discuss the best way to cross the American River. We are proposing that SMUD temporarily reduce flows during construction. The first step would be to construct a coffer dam and a large culvert to divert the flow during construction. This work would take about one week and during that time we request that the flow be reduced to 5 cfs. The flow could then be increased to 10 cfs for about two weeks while the pipeline was being installed. The flow would need to be reduced again to 5 cfs for about a week to allow for removal of the coffer dam and culvert. Stafford Lehr will send you a letter to confirm that Fish and Game agrees with these temporary reductions in flow. Also, the District requests SMUD contact FERC and request a temporary reduction in flows to allow for this construction.

Letter No. E0296-086  
February 7, 1996  
Page 2 of 2

The District anticipates that the 4-week river crossing construction will occur this July or August. The total Swansboro project will take almost a year to construct.

The District has completed a Negative Declaration for the project and obtained a permit from the Corps of Engineers. The District has also applied for a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service which we expect to receive soon.

The District is currently restricted to using only one well out of seven to serve Swansboro because of water quality problems and requests SMUD's help in obtaining a quick approval from FERC to temporarily reduce the flows during construction.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT



Brian L. Cooper  
Project Engineer

Date mailed 2/8/96

BLC:alm

cc: Stafford Lehr, Fish and Game  
Cindy Oswald, USFS  
Lew Archuletta  
Larry Hull

