



TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT

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PRESS RELEASE TUD SUPPORTS THE SAFE, CLEAN RELIABLE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY ACT OF 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tuolumne Utilities District's (TUD) efforts to pursue state funding may soon enough pay off. Pete Kampa, General Manager for TUD, expressed a sense of relief after the state legislature passed Senator Dave Cogdill's Safe, Clean, Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010 November 4th. "After continued diligence with Senator's Cogdill's office, I feel this new legislation will be a benefit to our customers. After working with other Sierra foothill water agencies to gain attention to this region, the newly constructed language gives more focus to mountain communities," states Kampa.

In the past five years, TUD has been able to secure over \$10 million dollars worth of grant funding. Most recently, Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) received over \$4 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 grant for the reconstruction of a water distribution system serving the West Big Hill area.

"With our input to Cogdill's office and other state legislators, it has brought awareness of TUD to the state which means that it should be easier for us to secure grant funding on future improvements to the District's water and wastewater distribution systems," continues Kampa.

"There were also a number of water policy bills approved by the legislature on November 4th which are intended to improve the water quality and supply reliability of the Sacramento/San Joaquin Bay Delta." Many of these bills also reflect the influence of TUD and the Mountain Counties Water Resources Association on the State legislature, as the impact of bills that were initially proposed was reduced in the approved versions to a more reasonable level. TUD staff is still reviewing the adopted policy language to determine the potential impact on ratepayers. "Our influence on the state's legislative process is obvious, but we were not able to achieve everything we were hoping to. Undoubtedly, there is more work to do on behalf of rural communities," stated Kampa.

The Safe, Clean, Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010 \$11.1 billion bond measure will go before voters November, 2010. The package of bills is focused on improving the state's water supply and reliability.