



TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT

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PRESS RELEASE PUBLIC MEETING – SOUTH FORK STANISLAUS RIVER WATER SUPPLY RELIABILITY PROJECT

Sonora, CA – November 6, 2008
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tuolumne Utilities District invites the public to an informational meeting regarding the South Fork Stanislaus River Water Supply Reliability Project on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 at 7pm. The purpose of this project is to review and analyze the reliability of the PG&E Tuolumne Main Canal system between Lyons Reservoir and the Section 4 ditch near Twain Harte. This meeting is the first of several meetings that TUD will hold to look at potential system failures, contamination and other risks associated with the Tuolumne Main Canal and gain broad public input on the project. The Tuolumne Main Canal delivers 95% of TUD's water supply to its water treatment plants and irrigation customers.

On July 22, 2008 the District Board of Directors approved the hiring of Stantec Consulting, Inc. of Sacramento, as an independent contractor to oversee the South Fork Stanislaus Water Supply Reliability Project. Tom Scesa, District Engineer, informed the Board that the first phase of the project would be to develop an emergency action plan by interviewing engineering staff, operational staff, PG&E, fire agencies, other water agencies, and adjacent municipalities. Scesa indicated that historical hazards or known problem areas will be identified (such as fire, landslides, leaks, structural failures, other failures, soils types, and faults), noting that the system will be assessed based on hazards and impacts.

“This is a first and very important step for the District in identifying all risks to the Main Canal system and the potential impacts to the water supply for TUD and its customers,” stated Pete Kampa, General Manager for TUD. “We are encouraging the community to be a part of this process so that they can understand the full aspect of the existing water supply system and the challenges that PG&E faces in maintaining and operating the Main Canal. Broad public input will ensure the success of this important system evaluation and water supply reliability planning project,” stated Kampa.

The public meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2008 from 7pm to 9pm at the TUD Board Room located at 18885 Nugget Blvd. in Sonora.