



May 15, 2023

SENT VIA: EMAIL

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for the Mirabel 12KV Hazard Resiliency Project

MEMBER AGENCIES

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Sebastopol
- City of Ukiah
- County of Mendocino
- County of Sonoma
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

ANDY RODGERS
Executive Director

300 Seminary Avenue
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 508-3670
info@rrwatershed.org
www.rrwatershed.org

Dear Senator Feinstein:

Serving as Executive Director for the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA), I am writing to express support of the Mirabel 12-kV Multi-Hazard Resiliency Project. The water supply and treatment facilities at Mirabel represent approximately half of Sonoma Water's total capacity. Electrical power for the Mirabel facilities is transmitted by a 12-kV overhead power line which comes from a substation located 2-miles away. Presently, the 12-kV power line is vulnerable to seismic, fire, and flood hazards, which could cause an interruption in electrical power and result in the inability to pump and deliver drinking water from the Mirabel facilities. The proposed project aims to reduce the operational risks to the Mirabel facilities by designing and constructing a new 12-kV feeder which would specifically mitigate the risks of these natural hazards.

Sonoma Water is responsible for providing high quality drinking water for over 600,000 residents in parts of Sonoma and Marin counties. Sonoma Water also maintains and operates eight sanitation districts which treats wastewater for 30,000 single family dwellings and sources water from its primary aquifer with six collector wells, which pump water into 83 miles of large diameter pipelines (aqueducts), transmitting water to 630,000 individuals throughout Sonoma Water's service area. Three of the six collector wells are located along the eastern bank of the Russian River in what is known as the 'Wohler Water Supply Facility,' and the other three collector wells are located on the opposite side of the river in the 'Mirabel Water Supply Facility.'

The primary objectives of this project are to reduce the vulnerability of the drinking water system to natural hazards, and to ensure reliable drinking water for residents of Sonoma County and Marin County. This will be achieved by implementing various measures such as undergrounding, rerouting to avoid seismic liquefaction zones, and redundancy through loop power feeds. The implementation of these measures is contingent upon obtaining federal funding.

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Thank you in advance for considering this important project. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, at cleanwater@rrwatershed.org or 707.508.3670.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andy Rodgers', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andy Rodgers, Executive Director
Russian River Watershed Association

cc: Maureen Mulheren, Chair, RRWA
Lindsey Cain, Community and Government Affairs Graduate Intern