## RECEIVED 2003 DEC 17 PM 2:41 NAPA SUPERIOR COURT

Spanish Flat Water District P.O. Box 9163 Napa, CA 94558 (707) 966-1607

02/03

December 12, 2003

The Honorable Scott Snowden Presiding Judge Napa County Superior Court 825 Brown St. Napa, CA 94559

Judge Snowden:

As pertains to the Grand Jury Report, Spanish Flat Water District responds as follows:

I feel, at this time, that this action is unwarranted for our water district. Pending a future meeting of the Board of Directors, a further recommendation may be made.

Sincerely,

Karl Frank President

## **Congress Valley Water District**

P. O. Box 3023 - Napa, California 94558 (707) 255-9509

September 22, 2003

Napa County Grand Jury P.O. Box 5397 Napa, California 94581

Re:

Response to 2002-2003 Grand Jury Water Report

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Congress Valley Water District (District), thanks you for the opportunity to comment on the Napa County Grand Jury 2002-2003 Water Report.

The District was originally formed in order to provide local representation by and for the District customers. The Board members live or have property in, and are customers of, the District. The Board offers unique representation because the members are closer to, and have a better understanding of, the issues common to the District customers. This was reflected in the replacement and rehabilitation of the District's water system, which is described in the Grand Jury Report. It is also reflected in the District's advocacy and endorsement of appropriate land use designations for water use purposes when there was a water shortage crisis.

The District has been responsive to outside input, as well. The District customers enjoy the same water rates as in-City users, a recommendation made to the District some time ago and adopted by the District. If a consolidated entity were formed, or if the District were absorbed into the City at this time, the water rates might well increase to the City's outside rate. This would be a disservice to the District customers. While consolidation may provide economies of scale, it also necessitates additional administrative and support staff which is costly. District overhead is extremely low. Administrative work is completed by a consultant in a few hours a month which is less costly than an employee. By Contract the City of Napa provides billing and maintenance services in exchange for water sales revenue. The District's board of directors is fiscally responsible and efficient.

In the event of an emergency that significantly damages the water lines the District has adequate financial reserves to initiate repair in a timely manner.

The District joins in and concurs with the response of the five cities and the County of Napa declining to create a countywide water district, and favoring local control and responsiveness.

We thank you for your work. If you have any further questions, please contact the District at the above address and telephone number. The contact person is Dorothy Streich.

Very truly yours.

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Timothy Josten

President

By: Dorothy Streich, Secretary