



CCWD: Trinitas is Key to Getting Federal Money for Pipeline Project, Preserving County Water Rights.

SAN ANDREAS, CA, December 17, 2008 - Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) General Manager, Dave Andres, made a presentation to the County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday announcing the opportunity for the district to receive funding from the Army Corps of Engineers under a Federal stimulus package for infrastructure projects aimed at job creation and bolstering local economies. "The Feds have let us know they are actively looking for projects that are in a "ready to proceed" status and that will create jobs and stimulate local economies. Trinitas represents a \$39 million capital investment in the local economy and will create 48 to 60 fulltime jobs," said Andres. Those figures were backed up by Cory Burnell, a wealth management specialist in Valley Springs, who also presented the Board with economic impact figures of Trinitas and other projects waiting for County approval.

CCWD has previously stated that it is of paramount importance to retain the 30,000 plus acre feet of surface water rights that CCWD is currently not utilizing in the New Hogan Reservoir. "The goal of this

New Hogan Water Supply Infrastructure and Environmental Restoration Program is to put that water to beneficial use for agriculture, groundwater recharge and recreation in western Calaveras County. Doing so will benefit all County residents now and for years to come" said Ed Pattison Water Resources Manager for CCWD.

The opportunity to get federal money for a surface water pipeline project that will retain those rights relies heavily on the participation of future private end users. In October Trinitas owner Mike Nemea presented a letter to CCWD offering \$1 million cash and \$5 million in in-kind contributions to go toward meeting federal matching fund requirements for infrastructure projects. The in-kind contributions are the land, ponds, and pumping infrastructure already in place at Trinitas to be used as holding ponds, water reclamation and recharge sites. The district has said that if they were required to buy land and create the infrastructure that already exists at Trinitas, it may well exceed \$5 million. That is why the district believes Trinitas is in a unique situation to help secure the federal funding. Andres further stated the combined value of Trinitas (\$39million) and the pipeline project (\$30million) was nearly \$70million which could go a long way toward job creation and stimulating the local economy.