

Ojai FLOW

Friends of locally owned water

NEWS

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Re: Surfrider Foundation Supports Ojai FLOW plan to buy Golden State Water

Ojai, California – “A major element Ojai FLOW’s plan to buy Golden State Water is the need for the citizens to locally manage the delicate Ojai water supply.” says Ojai FLOW Chairperson, Pat McPherson. Ojai FLOW is pleased to receive a letter of support from A. Paul Jenkins, Coordinator, Matilija Coalition, Co-chair, Friends of the Ventura River, and Environmental Director of the Ventura County Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation (Letter Attached).

Jenkins letter to Ojai FLOW says: “Dear Pat, I am writing in support of the efforts of Ojai FLOW. This is a critical step in the ongoing efforts to develop a holistic watershed management plan for the Ventura River watershed.”

“Your efforts to bring the community together demonstrate that the Ojai Valley is aware of the threat to our ecosystem when outside corporate interests control a water supply. There are many examples from around the world and in the United States in which corporations have drastically impacted local communities through profit-motivated actions that overdraft local water supplies.”

“Recent actions by Golden State and the PUC demonstrate that they do not answer to the community. In contrast, Casitas Municipal Water District, as well as the other water districts in the valley, are controlled by a locally elected board which gives the community some control over water management practices.”

“We all depend on the responsible management of our water supply. With ever increasing pressure on this limited supply, it is crucial that the community is able to work together in a cooperative manner to ensure future sustainability. Please let us know how else we can assist in this important issue.”

Ojai FLOW is a volunteer organization dedicated to citizen ownership and control of Ojai’s water. They are focused on taking over Golden State Water that charges two to three times as much as public owned water companies in the same area. Ojai FLOW has presented petitions to Casitas Municipal Water District asking them to take over the Golden State Water Company. Their feasibility study, request for signs and newsletter sign up can be found on Ojai FLOW’s web site www.OjaiFlow.com. They can be contacted by e-mail: info@OjaiFLOW.com.

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