

December 21, 2015

The Honorable Jim Steele  
Lake County Board of Supervisors  
255 North Forbes St.  
Lakeport, CA 95453

Dear Jim,

We hope you will understand our delay in getting this letter to you. We know you've been preoccupied with the restoration of services to victims of the Valley and Rocky Fires. It's also taken us time to perform extensive research, and to proof this letter for tone and purpose.

You and I spoke most recently in Spring Valley at the April 1st County Services Area #2 (CSA2) Advisory Board meeting, when you, Jan Copinger and Mark Dellinger of Special Districts attended our regular monthly meeting in the Community Center.

At that time I was a member of the CSA2 Advisory Board.

As you may remember, at that meeting I introduced Jim Moffitt, with a contrasting proposal to an existing Special Districts Grant-Funded Water Distribution Plan. Jim McDole, President of the Advisory Board, interrupted my introduction and wouldn't allow him to speak, telling the audience, "Special Districts has already seen his plans."

I had to reveal to the rest of the advisory board in February that a Special Districts Water Distribution Plan existed. This was soon after discussing Jim Moffitt's ideas with Jim McDole and asking him to place Jim Moffitt on the agenda for the February Advisory Board meeting. Mr. McDole's response was, "I will not allow Jim Moffitt to speak."

Both Jim Moffitt and I have extensive rural water distribution experience.

He was once the largest plumbing contractor in the United States, built multiple sub-divisions of residential housing, and has over 30 years experience designing, repairing and maintaining Spring Valley water lines for both private and community customers.

I was once Resident Camp Ranger at Marin Chapter, Boy Scouts of America's Camp Tamarancho in Fairfax, California, where I was primarily responsible for the maintenance of a water distribution system that was the pride of the Boy Scouts of America and featured in 'Boys Life' magazine, consisting of 10 spring-fed water tanks from 15,000 to 100,000 gallons that distributed potable water to 19 campsites dispersed throughout 2,500 acres.

At least one of us voted for you for County Supervisor, especially because of your education and experience in water management and conservation. Indeed, this is the defining qualification for people with aspirations to elective office in Lake County.

Attached please find the Special Districts Water Distribution plan authored by Scott Harder of Special Districts. Scott graciously met with Jim Moffitt to discuss his concerns in June, and advised him the existing plan, with possible modifications, would be built out, but Jim's ideas would be considered "In the future."

Attached please also find Jim Moffitt's plan, which has recently been reviewed by Mike Thompson, the owner of the property next to mine, a former 15-year Spring Valley resident, and also formerly Director of Field Engineering for Tesco Corp., which company built the controls for Spring Valley's water system.

Mike agrees with us in calling Special District's plan "bogus," and thinking that "somebody's making money."

We believe that any reasonable person with basic knowledge of rural water management will quickly come to the conclusion that Mr. Moffitt's plan will immediately save 6.3 million gallons a year of desperately needed water worth close to \$200,000 at Special Districts prevailing rates, while the existing Special Districts plan, even with modifications, won't save a drop and ultimately waste more.

The Special Districts plan attempts to "fix" the accumulation of dangerous chemicals at our system stubs by perpetuating bad design and dangerously distributing chloroform and other dangerous chemicals to the rest of us.

Our research shows us this is called "blending," and is an acceptable technique when your system isn't leaking 10 million gallons a year: [http://www.record-bee.com/news/ci\\_26929822/water-districts-receive-state-grants](http://www.record-bee.com/news/ci_26929822/water-districts-receive-state-grants).

We believe Jim Moffitt's plan should be implemented immediately, and could be built for the same 1.7 million dollars from a re-written grant request, as we alleviate the collection of dangerous chemicals at our stubs by continuing to flush them several times a quarter. Saving 6.3 million gallons of water a year will allow us to flush regularly and automatically, until further funds can be secured to loop our end points and remove the contaminants properly at the water treatment plant. We could flush into a storage tank and keep the water for non-potable use, too.

It would be different if Jim Moffitt's ideas could be thought of in any way as "experimental."

However, included in his materials is a link to the Sacramento Suburban Water District installed unit: <http://www.sswd.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=3862> demonstrating his approach has been built out by other water districts and there are no risks involved implementing his plan.

The worst drought in California history, our Governor's mandate to save 25% of our supply, intelligence and morality demand this.

You will notice I've copied this letter to Don Anderson, the District Attorney for Lake County.

That's because I've been screamed at by Jim McDole in a public meeting for expressing these concerns, and received threats and veiled threats from other members of the Advisory Board. One came from *a recent candidate for public office* who, when I asked him what would happen if I contacted my representative(s)—*you*—told me he'd 'call 25 people the next day in Spring Valley!'"

He didn't tell me what he'd say to them but his tone was menacing. Another member of the Board I spoke with used a threatening tone to indicate *I might not want to be a member of this community*, if I continued this process.

In a personal conversation with Mr. Anderson earlier this year he suggested I could continue to update him on this matter.

You should know it is *exactly* because I want to live in Spring Valley that I've spent so much time researching Jim Moffitt's ideas and taken so much care in drafting this letter. We reserve the right to share this communication with anyone we wish to, public or private, to let them know we're doing this for the right reason—to protect them from the wasting of so much public money.

We're still waiting for a responsible engineer or other person with expertise to tell us Jim Moffitt's plan is unworkable, and give us the reason(s). Perhaps that person is you; if so, please advise. Otherwise we would appreciate your assistance implementing Jim Moffitt's plan at the earliest opportunity.

Also, we have no direct knowledge for the reasoning involved in intelligent people building a \$1.7 million bad idea. However, logic only informs us of 3 possibilities: incompetence, ego or financial gain.

Deep Throat said "follow the money," and 1.7 million dollars in Lake County is an awful lot of money. We hope if you discover there've been any unethical or illegal deals made for the acquisition of public funds either in the signing of contracts for this project or for the trading of influence or future influence in Spring Valley, including violations of the Brown Act by members of the Advisory Board, you'll advise local and state law enforcement.

We also hope you'll use your influence in the future to prevent **pork** like the existing Special Districts Water Distribution Plan from wandering through a Public Agency that should have the interests of the people in mind.

Sincerely and Respectfully,

Christopher J. Musser  
[cmusser@mussercommunications.com](mailto:cmusser@mussercommunications.com)  
(707) 998-9315

Jim Moffitt  
[ejhouse2011@hotmail.com](mailto:ejhouse2011@hotmail.com)

(707) 998-3182

Michael Thompson  
[ect1965@yahoo.com](mailto:ect1965@yahoo.com)  
(916) 207-4960

CC: The Honorable Don Anderson, District Attorney, County of Lake  
The Honorable Jerry Brown, Governor of the State of California