



# CCWD ADVOCATES FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENTS

CCWD's Federal lobbyist, Mia O'Connell, led the way for the District's recent meetings with Congressman McClintock, Congressman Garamendi's staff, Senator Padilla's office staff, senior US Army Corps of Engineers leadership, and other advocacy partners. The goal for these meetings is to secure federal funds for key District projects and advocate for CCWD's priorities.

## Congressman McClintock and Senators push for local federal funding



### COPPER COVE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND RECLAMATION FACILITY

CCWD owns and operates the Copper Cove Wastewater Treatment Plant and Reclamation Facility. This is a tertiary treatment facility that recycles wastewater for irrigation use. The treatment plant is near max capacity and the tertiary treatment infrastructure is past its useful life.

Through its federal advocacy efforts, CCWD has already received \$2 million in federal funding toward this project and this year is seeking \$11,200,000 in construction funds in the FY24 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill and the Corps of Engineers' FY 2024 Work Plan.

Late Senator Feinstein and Senator Padilla's efforts in the FY 2022 and FY 2023 Omnibus Appropriations Acts included \$1M in each bill in construction funds for the Calaveras County Section 219 Environmental Infrastructure Project, Copper Cove.

Congressman McClintock was instrumental in working with the ACOE and the Assistant Secretary of the Army's office to ensure the Corps funded the District's project in the FY22 and FY23 Work Plans. CCWD is now working closely with the Corps' Sacramento District on project implementation.

## House Hydropower Clean Energy Future Act

CCWD is closely following the new developments from the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy, Climate and Grid Security of H.R. 4045, the Hydropower Clean Future Act, from committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers. CCWD is collaborating with its congressional delegation to ensure Calaveras County's water resources and hydropower interests are reflected in these pieces of legislation and is urging full consideration of the measures by Congress.

## Senate FERC Reform

CCWD owns two hydropower projects that provide 261 megawatts of clean energy capacity. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license renewal process for these projects will consume enormous resources over the next ten years. Relicensing is currently an overly burdensome process that strains the viability of crucial renewable energy projects, like our own. CCWD is closely monitoring the markup and approval by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee developments of S. 1521, the Community and Hydropower Improvement Act which aims to streamline the FERC process for licensing and relicensing, among other matters, as well as the legislation mentioned above, H.R. 4045, the Hydropower Clean Future Act, which also aims to streamline the FERC relicensing process

## Aging Infrastructure & Fire Suppression

Like most water agencies, CCWD has a backlog of aging water and wastewater infrastructure that urgently needs replacement. CCWD's water and sewer service areas are within or near national forests and other federal lands. Water infrastructure is crucial for fire suppression efforts to protect federal lands and our communities. CCWD seeks federal partnerships to improve fire suppression capabilities on the front lines of the fight against severe wildfire. CCWD supports amending the USDA-Forest Service State and Private Forestry's Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program (CWDG) to expand the program's planning and prevention project eligibility to include water infrastructure for firefighting projects.

### Dianne Feinstein 6/22/33 - 9/29/23



United States Congress, US Senate  
Photo/Becky Hammel

CCWD expresses eternal gratitude for her pioneering 54-year public service career and contributions to California Water. She was a strong advocate for California water issues and specifically for CCWD. She championed our current request for \$11.2 million in this year's federal budget, which would benefit all CCWD customers.