

# Resolution No. 2023-XXX N.C.S. of the City of Petaluma, California

## **RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PETALUMA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A LETTER OF SUPPORT REGARDING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE POTTER VALLEY PROJECT**

**WHEREAS**, the majority of the City of Petaluma's water supply is provided by Sonoma Water, which utilizes the Russian River System to produce and deliver potable water for various communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Russian River System benefits from the Potter Valley Project, which diverts water from the Eel River into Lake Mendocino and ultimately into the upper Russian River; and

**WHEREAS**, the Potter Valley Project is owned and operated by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and is permitted and licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC); and

**WHEREAS**, before the expiration of the license to operate the Potter Valley Project hydro-electric plant, PG&E proposed a 30-month schedule to submit a license surrender application to FERC and decommission the power plant; and

**WHEREAS**, the Potter Valley Project is instrumental in maintaining flows into Lake Mendocino and the upper Russian River, and without it, the water supply in the Russian River System will be reduced; and

**WHEREAS**, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission (MCIWPC), the Round Valley Indian Tribes (RVIT), and Sonoma Water worked together to submit a proposal to PG&E to express interest in maintaining certain Potter Valley Project facilities and maintaining flows from the Eel River to the Russian River; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 4, 2023, PG&E responded to the proposal stating it has accepted the proposal from MCIWPC, RVIT, and Sonoma Water and would include it in their draft surrender application and decommissioning plan; and

**WHEREAS**, various water suppliers in Mendocino, Sonoma, and Marin Counties have drafted a letter of support for the new Eel-Russian Facility Project and included their respective logos on the support letter; and

**WHEREAS**, staff could not obtain council action to include the City of Petaluma's logo on the collective letter of support before it is sent out, and instead, a separate letter of support from the City of Petaluma is to be delivered to state and federal legislators.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Petaluma hereby:

1. Declares that the above recitals are true and accurate and are incorporated herein as findings of this Resolution.
2. Authorizes the Mayor to Execute a Letter of Support for the new Eel-Russian Facility.
3. Authorizes City staff to distribute the signed Letter of Support as appropriate.

Under the power and authority conferred upon this Council by the Charter of said City.

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**REFERENCE:**

I hereby certify the foregoing Resolution was introduced and adopted by the Council of the City of Petaluma at a Regular meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023, by the following vote:

Approved as to  
form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor