



Idaho Association of
Commerce & Industry
The Voice of Business in Idaho®

March 1, 2010

The Honorable C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor of Idaho
Statehouse, 2nd Floor West
Boise, Idaho 83720

RE: Commitment to Comprehensive Aquifer Management Planning

Dear Governor Otter:

On behalf of the Idaho Association of Commerce & Industry, we remain committed to the implementation of the Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP) for the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA). We represented business on the committee that formulated the original plan and were part of a large coalition of organizations and individuals supporting the adoption of the CAMP by the Idaho Legislature last year.

We have also been involved in the development of a method whereby the funds needed to implement the various aspects of the ESPA CAMP have been considered. We have supported and continue to support the development of a mandatory fee process for all users within the ESPA as has been agreed to within the CAMP.

While we understand that there are some that may have an issue with the creation of a fee to implement the CAMP due to a belief that "they did not create the problem," we would encourage them to take a step back and look at the best interest of all water users within the CAMP.

The water infrastructure is critical to the long-term health of the state's economy, and the varied interests using the water are all dependent on its proper management. If the CAMP fails, we at IACI are not confident the court system will be capable of delivering a decision that will result in the best long-term interest of the ESPA. That is why the CAMP was developed in the first place.

Again, we appreciate your support and ongoing leadership in this matter. We stand ready to move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. LaBeau".

Alex S. LaBeau
President