MARIPOSA COUNTY RESOLUTION NO. 85-41

A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO THE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT OF JOSEPH M. KEATING ON THE MERCED RIVER.

WHEREAS, Joseph M. Keating has proposed a hydro-electric project on the Merced River, known as the El Portal Project, FERC No. 3581, and

WHEREAS, the El Portal Project would be located on the Merced River at the town of El Portal between river mile 108.7 and river mile 113.7. and

WHEREAS, the diversion structure and intake would be located on private lands approximately 100 yards from the west boundary of Yosemite National Park, and

WHEREAS, the El Portal Project is currently being reviewed by the appropriate authorities which grant or deny permission for projects such as the El Portal Project, and

WHEREAS, the portion of the Merced River wherein the El Portal Project will be located is within the County of Mariposa, and

WHEREAS, the reduction of the flow of the Merced River by 650 cubic feet per second at the boundary of Yosemite National Park, and the construction of the facilities of the El Portal Project would seriously mar the beauty of the entrance to Yosemite National Park, and

WHEREAS, Yosemite National Park is a natural resource located within the County of Mariposa, and

WHEREAS, the El Portal Project is a purely private endeavor, and

WHEREAS, the El Portal Project would significantly
reduce the flow of the Merced River and affect rafting
enthusiasts, rafting businesses, fishing, kayaking, and
other river recreation in Mariposa County, and

WHEREAS, the benefits of the El Portal Project in
terms of either electricity produced or economic benefits to
the public, do not outweigh the negative scenic environmental
effects on the County of Mariposa,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of
Supervisors of Mariposa hereby formally opposes the Joseph
M. Keating El Portal Hydroelectric Project (FERC 3581), for
the following reasons:

1. The El Portal Project would significantly reduce
the flow of the Merced River and affect rafting enthusiasts,
rafting businesses, fishing, kayaking, and other river
recreation in Mariposa County, and

2. The benefits of the El Portal Project in
terms of either electricity produced or economic benefits to
the public, do not outweigh the negative scenic environmental
effects on the County of Mariposa, and

3. The reduction of the flow of the Merced River
by 650 cubic feet per second at the boundary of Yosemite
National Park and the construction of the facilities of the
El Portal Project would seriously mar the beauty of the
entrance to Yosemite National Park, and

4. The Project, as it is proposed, is not in
the best interest of the citizenry of the County of Mariposa.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of
Mariposa County this 26th day of February, 1985, by the following
vote:

Ayes:  BARRICK, DALTON, ERICKSON, RADANOVICH, TABER

Noes:  NONE

Absent:  NONE

Abstained:  NONE

EUGENE P. DALTON, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Gerald M. McCarthy
GERALD MCCARTHY, County Clerk and
Ex Officio Clerk of the Board

By:  LYNNE ROBINSON, Assistant

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

JEFFREY C. GREEN, County Counsel