

Dreier Promotes San Gabriel Valley Water Clean-Up in Congress

September 25, 2006

WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman David Dreier (R-San Dimas, CA), House Rules Committee Ranking Republican testified today before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power in support of his legislation, H.R. 123, to continue to provide federal funding for perchlorate clean-up in the San Gabriel Valley. Congressman Dreier also introduced Michael Whitehead, member of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority Board, who also testified in support of H.R. 123.

"H.R. 123 is an important continuation of the successful federal – state – local partnership that already exists in providing one of the most basic necessities of life – clean drinking water," Dreier said. "Providing strong federal support for this effort has always been a very important priority."

Congressman Dreier introduced H.R. 123 this year to increase by \$50 million the authorization of federal funds for the San Gabriel Basin Restoration Fund, created in 2000 by Dreier's enacted legislation to help clean up perchlorate contamination and provide safe drinking water to Southern California. The initial federal authorization was \$85 million, most of which has already been allocated to the ongoing clean up. The estimated total cost of clean up is now \$1 billion. With the additional federal assistance that Congressman Dreier's bill provides, the federal investment is 13.5 percent of the total cost, which reflects that this is an extraordinarily cost effective federal project.



"I am proud to say that this partnership is an example of good stewardship of taxpayer money," Dreier said. "The exceptional work of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority which administers the project with the partnership of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has made this clean up a success. We must continue that success to ensure we eliminate this pollution from our drinking water supplies."

Congressman Dreier also thanked Water and Power Subcommittee Chairwoman Grace Napolitano for holding the hearing on H.R. 123, her co-sponsorship of the bill and her continued support for the ongoing clean up. Local area Representatives Gary Miller, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Adam Schiff, Hilda Solis and Linda Sanchez are also cosponsors of H.R. 123.

**Photo above is of Congressman Dreier and to his left, Michael Whitehead, member of the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority Board.