

SAVE THE CANAL

www.savethecanal.INFO | www.gofundme.com/savethecanal

HOW DO I MAKE A COMMENT TO EID?

Email your comments to:

<MainDitchEIR@eid.org>

no later than 5pm on September 18.

Be sure to include:

- ATTN: Upper Main Ditch Project: MainDitchEIR@eid.org
- your name
- date
- are you an EID ratepayer?
- any professional qualifications that further your point

Dear EID,

These comments are offered about EID's plan to pipe the Upper Main Ditch...

**EID will send you a confirmation of receipt email.

Make sure you receive it.

SOME RESOURCES:

Here is the link to EID's DEIR documents if you need to reference them:

<https://www.eid.org/about-us/project-updates/upper-main-ditch-piping-project/main-ditch-updates-and-documents>

Since your participation and your comments are SO important in this process, we wanted to simplify some of the major impacts. Here is the Save the Canal summary of impacts to remind you of what we think are important points:

<http://savethecanal.info/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/SAVETHECANAL-IMPACTS.pdf>

Here is the PDF of El Dorado County's DEIR comments which focus a little more on the engineering issues regarding all the alignments:

<http://www.savethecanal.info/EIDoradoCounty-comments.pdf>

Pollock Pines Community: WE HAVE THEIR ATTENTION

Hello Save the Canal supporters,

As you may or may not be aware, EID reopened the comment period on the Draft EIR until **September 18 at 5 PM**. We would like to encourage you to take a few minutes this weekend and write a comment regarding the proposed piping project. **Even if you did submit comments back in July, you can submit NEW comments and your efforts WILL make a difference to help Save the Canal.**

One thing that has changed recently and may serve as inspiration is that EID seems like they may be leaning toward the alternative piping alignment that primarily follows Blair Rd, rather than down the current ditch alignment. While this alternative has some benefits, it is important to note that many of the negative impacts on our community will result regardless of the piping alignment chosen. For example, all piping alignments result in the loss of riparian habitat and the wildlife that depends on it, along with the aesthetic and recreation values they bring. Many trees will still become stressed and vulnerable to beetle attack, which could spread throughout Pollock Pines. The piping of the open ditch, regardless of the alignment, would also prevent access to the water as a firefighting resource.

Having read through the comment letters submitted in July, it is clear that most of the emphasis was focused on the Ditch alignment because that was the proposed project. This may have led EID to assume that the alternative alignments would mitigate many of the impacts of piping the ditch. So, it is important that we make clear that the NO PROJECT alternative is the only one that mitigates the negative impacts. We have included a couple comments below to give a sample.

Remember: The DEIR acknowledges that the No Project alternative is the environmentally superior alternative!

Sample Comment 1: The DEIR does not provide maps of tree removals for the alternative alignments. These maps are needed to assess the relative impacts of each alignment regarding tree removals.

Sample Comment 2: Regarding tree removals, the DEIR indicates that "Trees and vegetation communities along Blair Road and portions of the cross-country segments of the Blair Road Alternative and the Combined Alternative were surveyed during the December 2017 reconnaissance-level surveys." This term is not defined and does not sound like a detailed analysis. Please describe in detail what methodology was used and how the tree removal estimates were generated. The DEIR alternative analysis does not have the detail needed to assess the environmental impacts of each alternative on that debt.

Many thanks for joining us on this journey and thank you in advance for your participation. After 3 years of steady work we finally seem to have their attention. It is so encouraging to see and hear about so many who are working to save and protect our community resource. Keep your eyes open and document what you see and keep passing along the good energy. Since we will likely be filing a lawsuit once the final EIR comes out, any donations to www.gofundme.com/savethecanal are gratefully accepted.

With your help, we can do this. We appreciate your support, Save the Canal

