



FOOTHILLS WATER NETWORK

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Centennial Dam Price Tag \$1 Billion

Nevada City, CA – Today a coalition of conservation and community organizations released the [attached memo](#) detailing the costs of the proposed Centennial Dam. As you can see in the attached document, we estimate that the total price tag for the dam could be **over \$1 billion.**

The Nevada Irrigation District (NID) has yet to release complete funding details for the dam, but their initial cost estimates have ranged from \$160 million in 2014 to \$200-300 million as noted on the NID website. Recently, an NID director was quoted as saying “the project is likely to cost close to \$500 million.”

As you can see in the attached letter to the NID Board, the actual costs of the project are equal to the financing cost -- this is what greatly increases, and could actually double, the price tag for ratepayers. Bottom line, if the project is completely financed those finance costs could equal or exceed the costs of building the dam.

Concerned community members filled the Nevada Irrigation District (NID) board meeting chamber today for their first meeting of 2017 to urge NID to consider more cost-effective and less environmentally destructive alternatives to the billion-dollar dam.

Community members addressed the NID Board during the public comment period at the beginning of the meeting. The following speakers gave public comment (and are available for interviews):

- Otis Wollan, former five-term Board member of the Placer County Water Agency (1997-2008)
- Shelly Covert, Tribal Spokesperson for the Nevada City Rancheria
- Peter VanZant, Former Nevada County Supervisor (1997-2004)
- Caleb Dardick, Executive Director, South Yuba River Citizens League
- Shannon Dooley-Miller, Landowner and homeowner whose property would be impacted by the proposed dam

For more information contact:

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More information is also available at the SYRCL Centennial Dam pages at: <http://yubariver.org/centennial-dam/>

The Foothills Water Network is an alliance of conservation, angling and recreation groups, whose mission is to protect and enhance aquatic ecosystem health and recreation opportunities in the Yuba, Bear and American rivers.
