

MIKE THOMPSON

5TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAX POLICY



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
June 28, 2017

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Mr. Armando Quintero, Chair
California Water Commission
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Chair Quintero:

I write to support the application for Water Supply Investment Program funding under Proposition 1 for the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project.

In 2014, California voters approved \$2.7 billion in funding for water storage projects as part of Proposition 1: the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Act of 2014. Voters understood the importance of water storage as an important component of a robust system, and are willing to fund beneficial construction projects. The recent drought only further highlights the state-wide need improved water infrastructure, including storage, to prepare for drought and flood emergencies.

Los Vaqueros Reservoir is an off-stream reservoir in Brentwood, with fully screened Delta intakes, that can be expanded to provide multiple public benefits that qualify for Proposition 1 funding. Public benefits of this project include: supply for South-of-Delta wildlife refuges; drought and emergency preparedness; statewide integration potential; protection of water quality; and recreation enhancement.

The Los Vaqueros Reservoir expansion is an innovative project that embodies what the voters approved when they passed Proposition 1. Expanding an existing facility to extend operational flexibility for other agencies, while providing significant public benefits to the environment is a wise use of local ratepayer and state taxpayer dollars.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact Casey Badmington with any questions at (202) 225-3311.

Sincerely,

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

cc: California Water Commission members
Jerry Brown, General Manager, Contra Costa Water District