



August 8, 2017

Armando Quintero, Chair
California Water Commission
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236-0001
Email: CWC@water.ca.gov

RE: Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Letter of Support


Dear Chair Quintero and Members of the Commission,

On behalf of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, I am writing to convey our support for Contra Costa Water District's application for Proposition 1, Water Storage and Investment Program (WSIP) funding for the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project. The Authority serves 29 water purveyors south of the Delta, all of whom receive some portion of their water supply from the federal Central Valley Project. This water is put to great use irrigating five of the nation's top ten agricultural producing counties, conserving the nation's second largest contiguous wetlands, and sustaining millions of people residing in a wide range of communities, from small, rural and disadvantaged to the nation's technology capital, the Silicon Valley.

Over the past quarter century, the reliability and supply of CVP water delivered to our region has been disproportionately impacted by a myriad of state and federal regulations. To cope, our communities, water districts, and individual farmers have invested billions of dollars in regional water projects to expand and improve the capture, conveyance, conservation, and efficient use of our local water supplies. However, more can be done. The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority is an investor in the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project, providing both financial and in-kind support because the Project can provide a multitude of benefits, not just to California's agriculture and the communities we serve, but also broad public benefits including water for enhanced wetland management and water quality, groundwater and subsidence management, drought and emergency preparedness, improved state and federal operational flexibility, and recreational enhancement.

California's water managers are implementing comprehensive strategies to address our 21st century water supply challenges and surface storage projects are a vital part of our future success. The Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project builds upon existing infrastructure to optimize its potential to enhance today's water management capability and help meet tomorrow's increasing demand. We appreciate your consideration and enthusiastically encourage your support for this important project.

Sincerely,


Jason Peltier
Executive Director

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