STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0115



Dec 14, 2021

Teresa Alvarado Chair, California Water Commission P.O. Box 942836 Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Chairwoman Alvarado,

We continue to support the Sites Reservoir Project (Sites Project) and the invaluable benefits it would bring to California's farms and cities, providing much needed flexibility in our statewide water management system, providing water for environmental purposes, and providing much needed regional flood control benefits. Named as one of the projects to "expand smart surface water storage where it can benefit water supply and the environment" in the Governor's 2020 Water Resilience Portfolio, Sites Reservoir is vital to California's long-term success.

As you know, the Sites Project is a 1.5 million acre-foot off-stream reservoir that will divert and store excessive Sacramento River flows. The diversion levels will be dependent upon hydrologic conditions and will ensure that water taken from the Sacramento River is truly in excess of downstream needs. If Sites Reservoir had been operational at the beginning of 2021, nearly 1 million acre feet of additional water would have been available to support California's environment, farms and cities during this critically dry year.

What makes this project most unique and valuable is the operational flexibility it provides the State's entire water system. The reservoir will have many uses, including but not limited to, dedicated water for fishery and flow purposes, a reliable water supply for California agriculture, increased Pacific Flyway habitat for migratory birds, and greater water security for urban areas. As we continue to see more extreme shifts in weather of punishing droughts and excessive rainfall the development of smart storage, like the Sites Project and flexibility it provides, is critical.

Thank you for the continued work that you and the Water Commission are doing to increase water supply reliability in the state. We look forward to the continued partnership with exciting and valuable projects like Sites Reservoir. Please call (916) 319-2003 should you need any additional information regarding our support of this vital project.

## Sincerely,

James Gallagher Assemblymember, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

Bill Dodd Senator, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

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Kevin Kiley Assemblymember, 6<sup>th</sup> District

Vince Fong Assemblymember, 34th District

Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh

Senator, 23<sup>rd</sup> District

Thurston "Smitty" Smith Assemblymember, 33<sup>rd</sup> District

Brian Dable Brian Dahle

Senator, 1<sup>st</sup> District

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Jim Nielsen Senator, 4th District

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Blanca Rubio Assemblymember, 34th District

**Kelly Seyarto** Assemblymember, 67th District

Keuth Eleva

Heath Flora Assemblymember, 12th District

Janet Nguyen Assemblymember, 72<sup>nd</sup> District

**Devon Mathis** 

Assemblymember, 26th District

Tom Lackey

Assemblymember, 36th District

**Chad Mayes** 

Assemblymember 42<sup>nd</sup> District

Shannon Grove Senate, 16<sup>th</sup> District

Carlos Villapudua Assemblymember, 13<sup>th</sup> District

Megan Dahle Assemblymember, 1st District Thotal - Rods

Freddie Rodriguez Assemblymember, 52<sup>nd</sup> District

**Brian Jones** Senator, 38<sup>th</sup> District

Anna Caballero Senator, 12<sup>th</sup> District