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California Water Commission

P.O. Box 942836

Sacramento, California 94236-0001

RE: Supporting Staff Recommendation on the Harvest Water Program Consideration of Supplemental Funding Determination

Dear Chair Steiner and members of the California Water Commission:

On behalf of the Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer), we would like to thank you for the California Water Commission’s continued leadership in advancing Harvest Water through the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP). SacSewer appreciates the Commission’s support of Harvest Water as a conjunctive use project delivering substantial ecosystem and water quality public benefits. Furthermore, we are writing in **support** of the staff recommendation of awarding an additional \$52,119,205 in supplementary funding determination to account for inflation up to the time of final funding award for Harvest Water in 2023.

Harvest Water is currently under construction, with the transmission and distribution pipeline installed and pump station and customer connections underway. It is anticipated that Harvest Water will begin recycled water deliveries in 2027. When fully completed, Harvest Water will bring generational benefits to southern Sacramento County and the State of California while supporting groundwater recovery, boosting sustainable agriculture, strengthening local habitats, and improving the local economy. Beyond the costs associated with the water delivery infrastructure, many Harvest Water benefits will stem from the protection and enhancement of habitat lands. Those activities will increase significantly in the next several years, and the associated costs for land and improvements continue to rise each year.

Inflation has been a significant challenge for this project. As published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation since 2020 has been largely attributed to the volatility of energy prices, backlogs of work orders for goods and services caused by supply chain issues due to the pandemic, as well as price changes in transportation related industries and land.

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Still, the value of the public benefits continues to increase, and SacSewer is committed to making sure that despite inflation, our lasting commitment to our communities and the State of California bring these benefits to fruition.

We thank you for your trust in SacSewer and for your partnership to help protect both public health and the environment through recovering renewable resources such as recycled water and ensuring it is accessible for multi-benefit uses.

Best regards,

 Christoph Dobson 4/13/2026

CHRISTOPH DOBSON
General Manager/ District Engineer
Sacramento Area Sewer District