



July 6, 2026

California Water Commission
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: Comments on Draft Contracts for the Administration of Public Benefits (CAPBs) – Sites Project

Dear Members of the California Water Commission:

On behalf of the Nisei Farmers League, representing growers, packers, farm labor contractors, and agricultural businesses throughout California, we appreciate the opportunity to comment on the Draft Contracts for the Administration of Public Benefits (CAPBs) for the Sites Project.

California agriculture depends on a reliable and balanced water supply. As the State continues to invest in water storage infrastructure through Proposition 1, we support efforts that improve long-term water reliability while also recognizing the importance of protecting public resources. Water storage investments should strengthen California's overall water resilience while balancing environmental objectives with the needs of food production.

California's agricultural communities rely upon dependable water supplies to support food production, rural economies, and hundreds of thousands of jobs. Decisions regarding project operations should carefully consider the economic impacts on farming communities throughout Sacramento and the San Joaquin Valley. We encourage continued public reporting regarding how public benefits are measured, funded, and achieved over the life of the project.

We encourage the Commission and the administering agencies to ensure that implementation of these contracts achieves the intended public benefits while preserving the project's primary purpose of improving water reliability and increasing our aquifers by having reliable storage.

Thank you for considering our comments. Should you have any questions, please contact our office at (559) 251-8468.

Sincerely,

Manuel Cunha Jr.
Nisei Farmers League President

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Manuel Cunha, Jr.

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