

August 12, 2020



Kerry Schmitz, Chair  
Sean Bigley, Vice Chair

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senate  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kamala Harris  
United States Senate  
112 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein and Senator Harris,

**Members**

California American Water  
Carmichael Water District  
Citrus Heights Water District  
Del Paso Manor Water District  
El Dorado Irrigation District  
Elk Grove Water District  
Fair Oaks Water District  
Folsom, City of  
Golden State Water Company  
Lincoln, City of  
Orange Vale Water Company  
Placer County Water Agency  
Rancho Murieta Community Services District  
Roseville, City of  
Sacramento, City of  
Sacramento County Water Agency  
Sacramento Suburban Water District  
San Juan Water District  
West Sacramento, City of  
Yuba City, City of

The Regional Water Authority (RWA) writes in support of the recent action by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) recommending the Sacramento Regional Water Bank (Bank) for federal assistance under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act). U.S. Department of Interior, Assistant Secretary Timothy Petty recommended to the Committee on Appropriations that the Bank receive \$870,000. As supporters of the WIIN Act's California water provisions, we are grateful for your leadership in advancing sustainable water storage projects for California. As you and your colleagues consider USBR's Fiscal Year 2021 appropriations, we look forward to approval of the Bank award as mandated by WIIN. In the coming weeks, we also request that you support expeditious obligation of these funds.

USBR's recommendations on project selections comes several years after Congress appropriated funding for WIIN storage projects. The RWA is concerned that further delays in the actual provision of funds to our Bank will create needless delays and setback our progress to bring the Bank online and begin to deliver a drought proof water supply for the region. To this end, if Congress is unable to pass a final Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for FY 2021 by October 1, 2020, we strongly request that you include language approving of the Bank as part of any Continuing Resolution that might be adopted to maintain governmental operations beyond October 1, 2020. We make this request because the Bank funding was appropriated during past fiscal years and there would be no adverse impact to fiscal year 2021 decision making.

Again, we appreciate your ongoing support of our work to deliver safe and reliable water supplies and improve the ecosystem of the Sacramento region. Please let us know if you require any additional information on the Bank. We would be pleased to provide any assistance. If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 847-7589.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Peifer'.

Jim Peifer  
Executive Director

**Associates**

County of Placer  
El Dorado County Water Agency  
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District