



# CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

1127-11TH STREET, SUITE 626, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 • PHONE (916) 446-4647

July 12, 2017

Armando Quintero  
Chairman  
California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Chairman Quintero,

On behalf of more than 48,000 farm families and individual members, the California Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to offer our support for the San Joaquin Valley Infrastructure Authority's Temperance Flat Project.

Farm Bureau's purposes are, among others, to work for the solution of the problems of the farm, the farm home and the rural community throughout California and to protect and advance the social, economic and educational interests of California farmers. Farm Bureau strives to protect and improve the ability of farmers and ranchers engaged in production agriculture to provide safe, reliable, and healthful food and farm products through responsible stewardship of California's diverse natural resource base.

With periods of diminished Sierra snowpack, punctuated by above normal snow and rainfall like we experienced this year, ever-increasing environmental policy demands such as increased flow requirements for native fish as well as water for wetlands, and a growing population, California will continue to face intense water challenges. Now more than ever, California's water system needs a more flexible, environmentally friendly and sustainable solution for diverting and storing water during periods of excess flows for human and environmental uses during dry periods.

The Temperance Flat Project would add up to 1,260,000 acre-feet of storage to Millerton Lake and produce hundreds of thousands of acre-feet in critical supplies, depending on the final operations plan, to California's water system. With the ability to integrate with the state's water system, Temperance Flat is strategically located and provides an innovative approach that will help to capture, store and move water where and when it is needed most. The project would provide significant new water for instream flows, recreation, groundwater recharge and assist with the long-term success of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Providing a substantial supply of high-quality water to support farms, the economy and the environment, the Temperance Flat Project meets the objectives of the California Water Action Plan, making California's water system more efficient, flexible and reliable.

Temperance Flat works for the ecosystem, and for families, farms, and businesses across the state. We encourage the California Water Commission to invest in the public benefits that the Temperance Flat Project would provide.

We look forward to working with the California Water Commission and the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority to advance this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danny Merkley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Danny" and last name "Merkley" clearly distinguishable.

Danny Merkley  
Director of Water Resources

Cc: Mario Santoyo, Executive Director, San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority



June 30, 2017

Mr. Joe Yun, Executive Director  
California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

Re: Support for Temperance Flat

Dear Mr. Yun,

On behalf of the California Citrus Mutual (CCM) membership I would like to express support for the Temperance Flat Project and additional San Joaquin Valley surface water storage. In March you and Chairman Armando Quintero met with a few of our grower board members to discuss the importance of the Temperance Project to San Joaquin Valley agriculture and communities. Our support remains steadfast for the project.

CCM is a citrus grower association with over 2,500 members farming approximately seventy-five percent of the citrus acreage in California. California citrus farmers produce over 80% of the fresh citrus marketed the U.S.; generating over \$3 billion revenue. The citrus industry directly provides over 13,000 jobs with another 12,000 persons employed in supporting industries. In 2014-16 many of our growers in the Friant service area received a zero allocation. The impacts of the drought were devastating for our industry and forced family farmers to make very difficult decisions. Groundwater wells are not an option for many of our growers as much of citrus is nestled into the sides of the foothills where groundwater is not easily accessible. The citrus industry lost a lot of groves because growers made the decision to pull their trees out or sell altogether.

The need for surface storage has never been more apparent as it has been in the past few years. Water is a scarce commodity and for this reason growers have implemented state of the art irrigation technology over the years. Without that, the drought would have been much more severe on agriculture. As agriculture continues to conserve and do more with less, the allocations of water directed to environmental purposes increase. An increase to water in the system will be the only solution to ensure all needs will be met. There is an immediate need for balance because a safe and affordable food supply is essential for California.

CCM has supported the Temperance Flat Project and played an instrumental role in the negotiation for the Prop 1 Water Bond. I was in negotiations with the legislators and Governor's office to ensure that the Section 8 language would have sufficient funding to pay for the public contribution for both Sites and Temperance. That was the intention of the funding. Although the Temperance Flat Project had a slow start due to internal politics, unrelated to project, its intent and the region's support have not wavered. In fact, the support has grown this year as it has been a particularly wet year after the long drought. The

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**RICK WESCOTT**

**TODD WILLIAMS**

**TOM WOLLENMAN**

one million acre feet of additional water Temperance could hold, would meet the water needs of its users for an extra year.

Temperance will also provide great environmental benefits as it will capture high flows as they are occurring in big water years with surface storage that will permit capacity for gradual conveyance and percolation without which implementing and meeting the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act's mandates will not be possible. It will greatly improve San Joaquin River flood protection and minimize flood release water losses to the ocean. The project will tremendously increase overall regional water management and supply flexibility. Additionally, it will provide a south-of-the-Delta source of emergency water supply for Southern California and other parts of California now relying upon fragile Delta water infrastructure.

I ask that you consider the myriad of regional and state benefits that will be provided for by the construction of this project. I also reiterate that there is strong local support for this project and I ask that you allocate sufficient funds from Section 8 of the Prop 1 Water Bond to the Temperance Flat Project.

Respectfully,



Joel Nelsen  
President

cc: Armando Quintero  
Carol Baker  
Andrew Ball  
Joseph Byrne  
Daniel Curtin  
Joe Del Bosque  
Maria Herrera  
Catherine Keig  
David Orth

STATE CAPITOL  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4014  
FAX (916) 651-4914

DISTRICT OFFICES

113 COURT ST, STE. 205  
HANFORD, CA 93230  
TEL (559) 585-7161  
FAX (559) 585-7187

2550 MARIPOSA MALL, STE. 2016  
FRESNO, CA 93721  
TEL (559) 264-3070  
FAX (559) 445-6506

1201 E. CALIFORNIA AVE., STE. A  
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307  
TEL (661) 395-2620  
FAX (661) 395-2622

September 19, 2016

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
ANDY VIDAK

FOURTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



COMMITTEES  
VICE CHAIR  
BANKING AND  
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
EDUCATION  
GOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATION  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND WATER

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

Dear Members of the California Water Commission:

Thank you for allowing us to write today to let the California Water Commission (Commission) know that we strongly support the proposal to build the Temperance Flat Dam in Fresno and Madera counties.

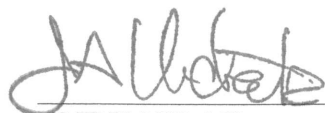
No region of California has suffered more or been impacted harder than the San Joaquin Valley. While the drought has been difficult for the Valley, the area has also suffered from constant regulatory curtailments of water and the disastrous impact of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program. All of these issues have had devastating impacts on the Valley agriculture and much of our economy.

Over the nearly three decades that Temperance Flat has been studied it has been shown that there is a critical need to develop a facility to capture additional water in the San Joaquin River's watershed. The construction of Temperance Flat will increase storage capacity on the San Joaquin River by 1.3 million acre feet. This additional storage capacity will provide a broad array of public benefits including flood control, recreation, water quality, and emergency water supply; all public benefits highlighted in Section 8 of the 2014 Water Bond (Proposition 1).


Most important, Temperance Flat will provide a reliable source of clean water for many cities and family farms in the Valley that have had to rely on unstable water deliveries from current Federal and State water projects. The construction of Temperance Flat will ensure that the San Joaquin Valley remains the nation's leading agricultural producer that supports the region's economic engine. Those directly involved in farming (namely farmworkers and farmer) as well as all those indirectly relying on agriculture need your help.

We thank you for taking the time to learn why we support the Temperance Flat proposal and we look forward to working with the Commission in putting Water Bond funds to work on this project.

Sincerely,

  
ANDY VIDAK  
Senator, 14<sup>th</sup> District

  
JEAN FULLER  
Senate Republican Leader

  
TOM BERRYHILL  
Senator, 8<sup>th</sup> District



April 27, 2017

California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

Dear California Water Commission Members,

As the largest urban user of San Joaquin River water, the City of Fresno strongly favors the proposal to develop Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir to provide direct and material water supply benefits to the City of Fresno. Our City Council urges the Water Commission to give favorable consideration to the application, now in the early preparation stage, for funding authorized for new storage and related facilities under Chapter 8 of Proposition 1, the California water bond authorized by state voters in 2014. The 1.3 million acre-feet of new San Joaquin River water storage to be created by Temperance Flat would be a tremendous benefit to the City's half-million residents and its vibrant business and industrial economic partners, and would allow the City to increase its current Class 1 contract amount, receive a new Class 2 allocation, and have dedicated water supply storage in the City's name in the new reservoir.

Temperance Flat is anticipated to offer significant benefits over a wide region, and the City of Fresno is well positioned to make good use of an increased Class 1 contract, a new Class 2 allocation, and water supply storage in the City's name. The City has a federal Central Valley Project contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for 60,000 acre-feet of Class 1 water delivered from Friant Dam through the Friant-Kern Canal, and we look forward to having that contract amount increasing to 120,000 acre-feet per year, along with receiving a new Class 2 allocation for 30,000 acre feet, and dedicated water supply storage in the City's name. Over time this additional water would allow the City to recharge its severely depleted aquifer, which has dropped more than 100 feet over the last 100 years.

Years of drought and regulatory curtailments saw several years with significantly reduced or zero deliveries from the Friant Division. But over the last two winters with above average precipitation led to large flood releases, due entirely to Millerton Reservoir's insufficient capacity to retain that water. Temperance Flat Dam would increase storage capacity threefold, reducing uncertainty for municipal water users like Fresno, and allow the City to receive an increased Class 1 contract, a new Class 2 water supply, and dedicated water supply storage in the City's name.

The City has traditionally relied heavily on groundwater and associated recharge activities for its municipal water supply. Recognizing the over-reliance upon extracted groundwater within the City and elsewhere in the San Joaquin Valley, the City for many years has been shifting a significant portion of its supply base to surface water from the San Joaquin and Kings rivers for which it has entitlements. With the construction of Temperance Flat, the City will be capable of operating four surface water treatment plants to utilize our increased Class 1 water supply, new Class 2 water supply, and dedicated water supply storage in Temperance Flat.



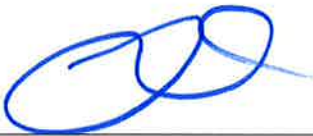
With the passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, the City is more reliant on these surface treatment plants than ever before. Beyond the increased Class 1 water supply, new Class 2 water supply, and dedicated water supply storage, the project's related infrastructure for conveyance and recharge are critical to the City and region's groundwater sustainability efforts.

The City recognizes and wishes to help address the broad negative effects of California's water supply crisis on the Valley. These impacts are particularly perilous within the five counties - Fresno, Madera, Merced, Kings and Tulare. The City of Fresno has financially supported the recently-organized San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority, a Joint Powers Authority of these affected counties, through the two small cities - Orange Cove and Avenal- that are members of the Authority board as representatives of other municipalities. The City is prepared to continue financial support for the Project, provided the City receives an increased Class 1 contract amount, a new Class 2 allocation, and dedicated water supply storage in the City's name in the new reservoir.

The Authority in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation are finalizing the Temperance Flat feasibility study and will soon be providing a formal application to the Commission for project funding through Chapter 8 of Proposition 1. The enhanced flood protection, environmental improvements, expanded surface storage, and increased Class 1 and Class 2 water supplies for the City resulting from Temperance Flat will be shown in the Authority's application to be a big part of the solution in meeting the water storage needs of the Central Valley and the entire state.

On April 27, 2017 the Fresno City Council and the Mayor reaffirmed their support for the Temperance Flat Dam Project in the attached resolution to provide direct and material benefits to the City in the form of an increased Class 1 contract amount, a new Class 2 water supply allocation, and dedicated water supply storage, and urges the Commission to accept and approve state bond funding for the Temperance Flat Project.

Sincerely,



Lee Brand, Mayor



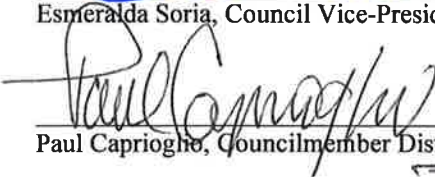
Clint Olivier, Council President



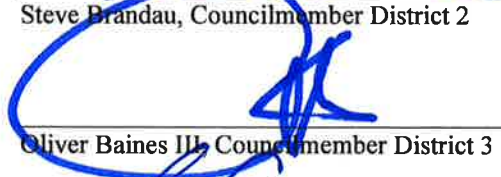
Esmeralda Soria, Council Vice-President



Steve Brandau, Councilmember District 2



Paul Caprioglio, Councilmember District 4



Oliver Baines III, Councilmember District 3



Garry Bredefeld, Councilmember District 6



Luis Chavez, Councilmember District 5



# City of Reedley

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**Mayor Anita Betancourt**  
1717 Ninth Street  
Reedley, Ca. 93654  
(559) 637-4200 ext. 212

July 24, 2107

California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

RE: Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir

Dear California Water Commission Members,

As Mayor for the City of Reedley I would like to voice my strong support for the proposal to build Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir in Fresno and Madera counties. Temperance Flat has been identified as being among the best locations for new multi-objective surface storage in California.

Over the past few years natural drought conditions have been particularly difficult on the central and southern San Joaquin Valley. Regulatory curtailments of water supplies have simply been devastating to valley agriculture and much of our economy. At the same time, this lack of surface water led to understandable overutilization and overdraft of the valley's greatest reserve supply — groundwater. As a consequence, water tables have plummeted; wells by the thousands have dried up and failed, demonstrating repeatedly the absolute necessity of developing additional surface water storage to capture high flows in big storm events and water years, putting the stored water to beneficial use. This includes capturing and storing excess Sierra runoff to enable its use for groundwater recharge in the lengthy process required to convey and percolate water for such purposes.

Current storage at Millerton Lake/Friant Dam has an annual average inflow of about 1.8 million acre-feet (capacity 520,500 acre-feet, but with "active" available storage above "dead pool" of just 385,000 acre-feet) is currently unable to store water in successive years. Temperance Flat would create additional capacity of some 1.3 million acre-feet. It would be managed to provide a broad array of public benefits, including ecosystem restoration, flood control, recreation, water quality, and emergency water supply, in combination with non-public benefits water supply and hydropower benefits.

The Temperance Flat Dam and Storage Project will have deep reverberating impact on the future of not only agriculture in the valley but also on the countless other industries and people that will benefit from the additional water that this project would provide.



July 24, 2017

As Mayor of the City of Reedley I see this project as a critical economic development driver for our region. We are proud to join a diverse coalition of organizations and agencies in supporting this project and we ask for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Anita Betancourt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Anita" and last name "Betancourt" clearly distinguishable.

Anita Betancourt

Mayor of the City of Reedley

cc: Mario Santoyo, Executive Director San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority



# County of Fresno

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Clerk

September 13, 2016

California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

RE: Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir

Dear California Water Commission Members,

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors would like to voice our strong support for the proposal to build Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir in Fresno and Madera counties. Temperance Flat has been identified as being among the best locations for new multi-objective surface storage in California.

Over the past few years natural drought conditions have been particularly difficult on the central and southern San Joaquin Valley. Regulatory curtailments of water supplies have simply been devastating to valley agriculture and much of our economy. At the same time, this lack of surface water led to understandable overutilization and overdraft of the valley's greatest reserve supply — groundwater. As a consequence, water tables have plummeted; wells by the thousands have dried up and failed, demonstrating repeatedly the absolute necessity of developing additional surface water storage to capture high flows in big storm events and water years, putting the stored water to beneficial use. This includes capturing and storing excess Sierra runoff to enable its use for groundwater recharge in the lengthy process required to convey and percolate water for such purposes.

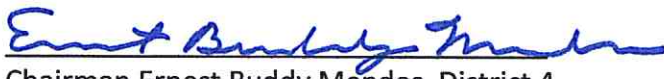
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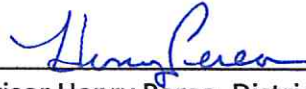
The Fresno County Board of Supervisors sees this project as a critical economic development driver for our region. We are proud to join a diverse coalition of organizations and agencies in supporting this project and we ask for your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

**Fresno County Board of Supervisors**



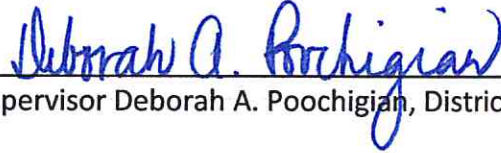
Chairman Ernest Buddy Mendes, District 4



Supervisor Henry Perea, District 3



Vice Chairman Brian Pacheco, District 1



Supervisor Deborah A. Poochigian, District 5



Supervisor Andreas Borgeas, District 2

cc: Fresno County State Legislative Delegation  
Paul Yoder, State Legislative Advocate  
Mario Santoyo, Executive Director San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority



July 28, 2016

California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

Dear California Water Commission Members:

The Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board, representing 15 incorporated cities and the County of Fresno, would like to voice our strong support for the proposal to build Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir in Fresno and Madera counties. Temperance Flat has been identified as being among the best locations for new multi-objective surface storage in California.

Natural drought conditions over the past few years have been particularly difficult on the central and southern San Joaquin Valley. Regulatory curtailments of water supplies have simply been devastating to valley agriculture and much of our economy. At the same time, this lack of surface water led to understandable overutilization and overdraft of the valley's greatest reserve supply — groundwater. As a consequence, water tables have plummeted; wells by the thousands have dried up and failed, demonstrating repeatedly the absolute necessity of developing additional surface water storage to capture high flows in big storm events and water years, putting the stored water to beneficial use. This includes capturing and storing excess Sierra runoff to enable its use for groundwater recharge in the lengthy process required to convey and percolate water for such purposes.

We understand that as a Commission you will consider the public benefits provided by each proposed project in granting Proposition 1 funds. The San Joaquin Valley Caucus has forwarded a list to you of those benefits on the river, underground, in the Valley and elsewhere in California. We concur with and support the list and reinforce the point that Temperance Flat can provide multiple benefits, both public and non-public, significantly increasing water storage on the San Joaquin River. With an annual average inflow of about 1.8 million acre-feet, Millerton Lake (capacity 520,500 acre-feet, but with "active" available storage above "dead pool" of just 385,000 acre-feet) is currently unable to store water in successive years. Temperance Flat would create additional capacity of some 1.3 million acre-feet. It would be managed to provide a broad array of public benefits, including ecosystem restoration, flood control, recreation, water quality, and emergency water supply, in combination with non-public benefits water supply and hydropower benefits.

The Bureau of Reclamation and the new San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority — which represents stakeholders in Fresno, Merced, Tulare, Madera and Kings counties — recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding under which these project benefits and related project information will be detailed for your consideration when a formal application for project funding under Section 8 of Proposition 1 (the "Water Bond") is filed with the Commission. The final feasibility study is expected to be released soon.

City of Clovis  
City of Coalinga  
City of Firebaugh  
City of Fowler  
City of Fresno  
City of Huron  
City of Kerman  
City of Kingsburg  
City of Mendota  
City of Orange Cove  
City of Parlier  
City of Reedley  
City of San Joaquin  
City of Sanger  
City of Selma  
County of Fresno

Although the Temperance Flat application remains in formative stages, Fresno COG believes it is of great importance to express our support of the application on behalf of our nearly one million San Joaquin Valley constituents. Temperance Flat would provide important water supply reliability benefits to a region in great need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amarpreet Dhaliwal', with a stylized, flowing script.

Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Policy Board Chair  
Fresno Council of Governments





*Protecting Water for Western Irrigated Agriculture*

**P.O. Box 216 Klamath Falls, OR 97601**  
**(541)-892-6244 [www.familyfarmalliance.org](http://www.familyfarmalliance.org)**

July 27, 2017

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

**RE: Temperance Flat Project Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Quintero and Members of the Commission:

On behalf of the Family Farm Alliance, I write to you today to convey our support for the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir application, submitted by the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority, for funding from Proposition 1, the Water Storage and Investment Program (WSIP).

The Alliance is a grassroots organization of family farmers, ranchers, irrigation districts and allied industries in 16 Western states. Our membership is strong in California, where many farmers and ranchers rely upon water supplies provided by the water storage projects built by federal, state and local water visionaries of the past century. The Alliance is focused on one mission: To ensure the availability of reliable, affordable irrigation water supplies to Western farmers and ranchers.

The recent drought has ramped up much-needed public interest that will allow Western water providers to better manage and prepare for future dry times. Earlier this year, the heaviest rain in a decade overwhelmed parts of the West Coast, underscoring the critical importance of having modernized and enhanced water storage infrastructure in place to optimize water resources management for the future.

Western farmers and ranchers rely on the traditional water and power infrastructure built over the last century to deliver irrigation water supplies vital to their farming operations. For farmers to survive, and for food to continue to be safely and affordably produced here in America, a stable water supply must be available. If we don't find a way to restore water supply reliability for Western irrigated agriculture through a combination of new water supply and management

infrastructure, other water supply enhancement efforts and demand management – our country's ability to feed and clothe itself and the world will be jeopardized.

The proposed Temperance Flat project would create a new reservoir in the upper San Joaquin River watershed to improve operational flexibility, water supply and reliability for the San Joaquin Valley's water users. Temperance Flat Reservoir, which would have a capacity of 1.3 million acre-feet (2.5 times that of existing Millerton Lake), is proposed on a site several miles upstream from Friant Dam that was the originally proposed location for a Millerton-area reservoir in 1930.

Temperance Flat would be connected to both the Delta and the extensive regional plumbing south of the Delta. The project could provide a secure place to store supplies for dry years, improve the capture of high flows for groundwater infiltration in wet years, and provide additional controllable supply that could improve water supply reliability or support ecosystems.

Greatly reduced Central Valley Project water deliveries because of Delta environmental restrictions have been the rule for nearly a decade, with severe economic and social impacts caused by diminished water supplies for agriculture, cities and disadvantages rural communities, business and industry. Over the past year, a growing number of other water agencies have worked tirelessly to support Temperance Flat and to encourage planning and development of other new valley water infrastructure. The Temperance Flat effort is being led by a partnership that includes five Valley counties, the Friant Water Authority, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority and the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority. Temperance Flat is clearly a San Joaquin Valley project that could have statewide benefits.

Thank you for your work in protecting California's water, and we look forward to your announcement of funding awards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Keppen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dan Keppen, P.E.  
Executive Director

cc:

Jason Peltier  
Jason Phillips  
Mario Santoyo

AFRICAN-AMERICAN FARMERS of CALIFORNIA



July 20, 2017

Mr. Armando Quintero, Chairman  
California Water Commission  
P O Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Armando,

On behalf of the African-American Farmers of California, we are pleased to offer our support for the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir project application in its search for funding from Proposition 1.

Temperance Flat will provide multiple benefits for not only the San Joaquin Valley, but will also provide flood protection, San Joaquin River environmental enhancement water, increase regional water management and water supply flexibility. In addition, surface water availability and reliability south of the Delta is key to helping solve multiple underground water issues.

It is with sincere hope that you will give positive consideration for this immensely needed project, Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir.

Sincerely,

Will Scott, Jr. President  
African-American Farmers of California  
3171 W Kearney Blvd.  
Fresno, CA 93706  
Office 559-442-1893  
Mobile 559-970-8020

July 25, 2017

Mr. Armando Quintero, Chairman  
California Water Commission  
P O Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Quintero,

I am writing in support of the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project. After the recent drought that affected the entire state of California and the floods of 2017, everyone is aware of the need for more storage. The time for delay has come and gone. California needs more storage for use during dry periods for human and environmental needs.

Temperance Flat will provide multiple benefits for the San Joaquin Valley, will provide flood protection, San Joaquin River environmental enhancement water, increase regional water management and water supply flexibility. Additionally, surface water availability and reliability south of the Delta is key to helping solve multiple underground water issues.

I sincerely hope the California Water Commission will give positive consideration for this immensely needed project, Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir.

Sincerely,

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Laurie Bissig



June 30, 2017

Mr. Joe Yun, Executive Director  
California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

Re: Support for Temperance Flat

Dear Mr. Yun,

On behalf of the California Citrus Mutual (CCM) membership I would like to express support for the Temperance Flat Project and additional San Joaquin Valley surface water storage. In March you and Chairman Armando Quintero met with a few of our grower board members to discuss the importance of the Temperance Project to San Joaquin Valley agriculture and communities. Our support remains steadfast for the project.

CCM is a citrus grower association with over 2,500 members farming approximately seventy-five percent of the citrus acreage in California. California citrus farmers produce over 80% of the fresh citrus marketed the U.S.; generating over \$3 billion revenue. The citrus industry directly provides over 13,000 jobs with another 12,000 persons employed in supporting industries. In 2014-16 many of our growers in the Friant service area received a zero allocation. The impacts of the drought were devastating for our industry and forced family farmers to make very difficult decisions. Groundwater wells are not an option for many of our growers as much of citrus is nestled into the sides of the foothills where groundwater is not easily accessible. The citrus industry lost a lot of groves because growers made the decision to pull their trees out or sell altogether.

The need for surface storage has never been more apparent as it has been in the past few years. Water is a scarce commodity and for this reason growers have implemented state of the art irrigation technology over the years. Without that, the drought would have been much more severe on agriculture. As agriculture continues to conserve and do more with less, the allocations of water directed to environmental purposes increase. An increase to water in the system will be the only solution to ensure all needs will be met. There is an immediate need for balance because a safe and affordable food supply is essential for California.

CCM has supported the Temperance Flat Project and played an instrumental role in the negotiation for the Prop 1 Water Bond. I was in negotiations with the legislators and Governor's office to ensure that the Section 8 language would have sufficient funding to pay for the public contribution for both Sites and Temperance. That was the intention of the funding. Although the Temperance Flat Project had a slow start due to internal politics, unrelated to project, its intent and the region's support have not waived. In fact, the support has grown this year as it has been a particularly wet year after the long drought. The

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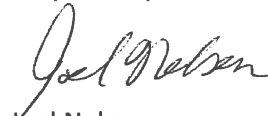


one million acre feet of additional water Temperance could hold, would meet the water needs of its users for an extra year.

Temperance will also provide great environmental benefits as it will capture high flows as they are occurring in big water years with surface storage that will permit capacity for gradual conveyance and percolation without which implementing and meeting the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act's mandates will not be possible. It will greatly improve San Joaquin River flood protection and minimize flood release water losses to the ocean. The project will tremendously increase overall regional water management and supply flexibility. Additionally, it will provide a south-of-the-Delta source of emergency water supply for Southern California and other parts of California now relying upon fragile Delta water infrastructure.

I ask that you consider the myriad of regional and state benefits that will be provided for by the construction of this project. I also reiterate that there is strong local support for this project and I ask that you allocate sufficient funds from Section 8 of the Prop 1 Water Bond to the Temperance Flat Project.

Respectfully,



Joel Nelsen  
President

cc: Armando Quintero  
Carol Baker  
Andrew Ball  
Joseph Byrne  
Daniel Curtin  
Joe Del Bosque  
Maria Herrera  
Catherine Keig  
David Orth



# TABLE MOUNTAIN RANCHERIA

## TRIBAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Joseph Byrne, Chair  
California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

Leanne Walker-Grant  
Tribal Chairperson

Beverly J. Hunter  
Tribal Vice-Chairperson

Craig Martinez  
Tribal Secretary/Treasurer

Matthew W. Jones  
Tribal Council Member

Richard L. Jones  
Tribal Council Member

Dear Mr. Byrne and Members of the Commission:

The Table Mountain Rancheria, located within the Sierra foothills northeast of Fresno, is a Board member of the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority, a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) organized and established over the past year.

This letter is to inform your Commission of Table Mountain Rancheria's participation — along with San Joaquin Valley counties, cities and water agencies — in seeking funding authorized for new water storage and related facilities under Proposition 1. We view the California water bond authorized by state voters in 2014 as being of tremendous importance to our Tribal members and all the San Joaquin Valley residents that our JPA represents.

The JPA'S primary objective is to obtain funding from the bond, other state and federal sources, and regional and local agencies and institutions with which the proposed Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir project along with other water supply infrastructure projects can be developed. As you may be aware, the JPA recently entered into an agreement with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for a partnership that will complete the federal feasibility report and initiate the process gathering information needed to refine the Temperance Flat project's public and regional benefits, based on the Commission's water storage investment program regulations. At the same time, Table Mountain Rancheria and its fellow JPA members will be seeking for similar state or federal statutes or grant programs to fund additional water infrastructure improvement projects.

This is a major commitment by the Rancheria and the other San Joaquin Valley agencies with which we are partnering. The Rancheria's participation is also motivated by our own Tribal needs as well as our desire to be part of the solution to the severe water crisis being faced by the Valley community as a whole.

23736  
Sky Harbour Road  
Post Office  
Box 410  
Friant  
California  
93626  
(559) 822-2587  
Fax  
(559) 822-2693

The Rancheria is no different than any other local Valley government, place or region for which water supplies are short of meeting its needs. In our case, there is essentially no supply of water available directly to the Rancheria. For years, it has been necessary for the Rancheria to purchase water from agencies who convey it by truck to our Rancheria. This arrangement is very expensive, inconvenient and in the long term unacceptable because of the safety and environmental impact that trucking water can pose to the community and valley. Temperance Flat holds the key to providing an affordable, adequate and conventional water supply for the Rancheria's health, welfare, safety, and future growth and development.

On a broader basis, the Rancheria's partnering counties — Fresno, Madera, Merced, Kings and Tulare — and communities have borne the brunt of massive reductions in Central Valley Project (CVP) water availability. These have occurred over the past decade as a result of severe natural drought and increasingly stringent federal regulatory actions and court decisions. The latter have had a severe effect upon the ability of the CVP and State Water Project to pump and export north state water from the Delta to Central and Southern California. Widespread hardship has resulted, particularly in highly-productive agricultural Valley areas that have been left with little or no water, and rapidly diminishing groundwater resources. Many of the hundreds of thousands of Valley farmland acres that have been fallowed or upon which production has been reduced dramatically as a result of reduced water allocations over the past several years are within these five counties. Far too many people have lost jobs and income as a result. This injures us all.

Projects our Authority was organized to seek and support have been conceived to provide new water supply reserves and operations flexibility for Table Mountain Rancheria and counties and communities in many parts of the Valley. It is our belief that even broader benefits in more distant portions of California may very well be possible and practical.

Temperance Flat Reservoir and its large capacity of more than 1.2 million acre-feet would result in significant additional amounts of high-flow runoff being captured that are now lost to flood releases. These releases from Friant Dam routinely occur in big water years because of limited existing storage capacity. The San Joaquin River naturally discharges an average of about 1.8 million acre-feet into the CVP's existing Millerton Lake but Millerton can hold only 520,000 acre-feet. Even more frustrating, Friant Dam's design created a "dead storage" pool of 135,000 acre-feet. In big water years, Millerton Lake simply cannot contain and control the river. Over the past 15 years, 30 million acre-feet of San Joaquin River flood releases have been lost to the ocean.

More storage would enhance water supplies, flood protection and the environment. It is also essential if the valley is to be able to capture and beneficially use more flood water to recharge plunging groundwater levels and reduce land subsidence. This project is vitally important to Table Mountain Rancheria.

The JPA will be addressing all of these conditions and more specifically the project's public benefits in the application for bond funding it will be submitting in the months to come for Temperance Flat, one of the major CALFED proposals specifically noted as leading intended beneficiaries for Proposition 1-Chapter 8 funding investment.

Table Mountain Rancheria trusts that the Commission will provide Temperance Flat with the thorough and positive consideration this project and the San Joaquin Valley deserve.

Sincerely,



Leanne Walker-Grant, Tribal Chairperson  
Table Mountain Rancheria



**100**  
YEARS  
1917 - 2017

# TULARE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

*Mission: to promote and enhance the viability of Tulare County agriculture.*

July 17, 2017

**Mr. Joe Yun, Executive Director  
and Commissioners**

California Water Commission

P.O. Box 942836

Sacramento, California 94236-0001

E-mail: [joseph.yun@water.ca.gov](mailto:joseph.yun@water.ca.gov) and [cwc@water.ca.gov](mailto:cwc@water.ca.gov)

Dear Mr. Yun, and California Water Commissioners

On behalf of the Tulare County Farm Bureau and its 2,000 farm and ranch families we represent, we support the San Joaquin Valley Infrastructure Authority in their pursuit of funding to build expanded surface water storage at Temperance Flat.

California's Central Valley, which provides the majority of fruits and vegetables for the country, has just suffered from a multi-year drought, which has been made worse by federal and state over-reach and draconian regulations. As a result, billions of gallons of water have been diverted away from the region in an effort to protect fish species. Today, citizens and farmers in the Central Valley are receiving less water than they previously contracted for and purchased. The water system that established California as a beacon of ingenuity has been pushed to the wayside for a bait fish and has had devastating consequences for farmers, as they now fallow thousands of acres of farmland. Cities in the Central Valley have run dry, relying solely on trucks to deliver potable water.

Even now in a year of immense rain and plentiful snow pack available for downstream purposes, the state and federal red tape has limited the amount of water available to rural communities, farms, and municipalities that depend on these water supplies. With the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act on the horizon, and restrictions to be anticipated with groundwater pumping, it is even more critical that the San Joaquin Valley build storage and develop surface water supplies.

For years, you have fought to bring water back to the valley; this year is no different. Building Temperance Flat would help to improve reliable water deliveries for our valley.

The Valley's economy depends on healthy rural communities that can provide safe and reliable water supplies to their residents. These residents fuel the economy in the Valley by contributing to the agricultural workforce and beyond.



Temperance Flat must be built to:

- Help address the broad negative effects of California's water supply crisis on the valley, which requires much improved surface water availability and reliability south of the Delta — as Temperance Flat's 1.26 million acre-feet of storage would provide — for use by valley farmers, residents and businesses.
- Capture high flows as they are occurring in big water years with surface storage that will permit capacity for gradual conveyance and percolation without which implementing and meeting the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act's mandates will not be possible.
- Greatly improve San Joaquin River flood protection and minimize flood release water losses to the ocean.
- Tremendously increase overall regional water management and supply flexibility.

**Storage** must be in the final resolution, **new storage** including the Temperance Flat site; **enhanced storage** including raising dams and expanding reservoirs where possible; and also **building new conveyance and storage infrastructure** statewide to capture rain and snow melts.

In Tulare County, the agriculture industry directly supports 25% or more of the employment of our County's residents, and a large percentage of our disadvantaged and minority residents are directly impacted when agriculture jobs are lost. In-directly the agriculture industry's multiplier effect adds approximately \$3 additional dollars for every \$1 produced by agriculture, and the effect in our communities is immense when drought and water cut backs cripple our farms and ranches.

Now is the time to enact long term, meaningful solutions to California's water supply issues and we are hopeful that Temperance Flat is one of the major projects built in the near-term to help California's water supply.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger Everett".

ROGER EVERETT  
President



July 13, 2017

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

**RE: Support for Proposition 1 Funding of Temperance Flat Dam**

Chair Armando Quintero and Commission Members,

On behalf of Fresno County Farm Bureau (FCFB), I enthusiastically write in support of the Temperance Flat Dam (Temperance Flat) application prepared by the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority (SJWIA).

This project is an absolute must for the viability of farms throughout the Central Valley. The lack of a reliable water supply over the past decade has cost this region billions of dollars in agricultural production, economic activity and jobs. Temperance Flat will benefit all Californians and Americans who depend on a domestic food supply while ensuring water solutions to our local communities.

FCFB has been supporter of Temperance Flat since the beginning. Our organization was among the many in our communities who marched for water in 2009, and who, again, in 2014, fought for the \$2.7 billion in Proposition 1 funding for storage projects including Temperance Flat. Make no mistake...our statewide coalition specifically sought funding for aboveground storage projects knowing that Temperance Flat is the best project in the state to benefit.

The project's location is ideal for capturing, storing and moving water South-of-Delta while having minimal effect on the local environment. Additionally, with the implementation of California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), Temperance Flat will allow local communities and agriculture the opportunity to put additional water supplies back into the ground. In 2016-2017 alone, as much as 2.5 million-acre feet will be released as flood flows that should have been used for water/irrigation supplies, as well as groundwater recharge, in both this and future years.

This project alone is not a cure-all to our local water supply challenges, but it is a necessary step towards building a reliable water future for the Valley. The SJWIA has done a tremendous job preparing the Temperance Flat application, and we commend them for the package you have in front of you. FCFB now asks the Commission to fund this needed project.

FCFB looks forward to working with the Commission and SJWIA on this vital project. It is our hope to see ground broken on this significant infrastructure investment in the not-too-distant future.

Sincerely,

Ryan Jacobsen  
CEO



1785 N. Fine Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727  
Telephone: 559 / 252-0684  
Fax: 559 / 252-0551

July 5, 2017

Mr. Armando Quintero  
Chairman  
California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Re: ***Support for Temperance Flat Reservoir***

Dear Chairman Quintero,

On behalf of the over 600 cotton growers and 27 operating cotton gins in the State of California, we wish to express our support for the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project. Given the recent drought that gripped the entire state, it was never more evident that additional water storage is needed. We believe that the construction and utilization of the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project will help address the water supply crisis here in the San Joaquin Valley by improving water supply availability and reliability south of the Delta.

The Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project will hold 1.26 million acre-feet of water storage. Combined with the existing Millerton Lake Storage, it will result in a combined water storage operation of 1.78 million acre-feet. This will finally allow the capture of high flows of water in years with high rainfall, such as 2016-2017, where as much as 2.5 million acre feet will be released as flood flows and not captured to use for water supply or groundwater recharge. In 17 out of the last 40 years, or 43% of the time, water has been released through Friant Dam on Millerton Lake as flood releases. Incredibly, in nine (9) of those years, more than 1 million acre-feet was lost to the ocean and not utilized here in the valley. The Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project will go a long ways in solving that incredible shortcoming.

Capturing these flows and allowing the gradual and timely release of water through the Friant-Kern and Madera Canals will provide the necessary water management to conduct important groundwater recharge and the most optimum usage of the valley's precious water supply. This is not only critical, but necessary to help the San Joaquin Valley meet the goals and objectives of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). In addition, these flows can provide important and much needed additional water, previously lost to the sea, for agriculture, cities, and the San Joaquin River itself.

The Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project clearly meets the goals and objectives of the California Water Bond as envisioned by those that wrote the legislation and those that voted



Mr. Armano Quintero

July 6, 2017

Page 2

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for it. For all these reasons, we respectfully urge the Commission to support this project to the fullest extent possible. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Roger A. Isom  
President/CEO

C: Carol Baker, California Water Commission  
Andrew Ball, California Water Commission  
Joseph Byrne, California Water Commission  
Daniel Curtain, California Water Commission  
Joe Del Bosque, California Water Commission  
Maria Herrera, California Water Commission  
Catherine Keig, California Water Commission  
David Orth, California Water Commission  
Joe Yun, Executive Director, California Water Commission

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WESTERN AGRICULTURAL PROCESSORS  
ASSOCIATION

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559-455-9272  
f: 559-251-4471

[www.agprocessors.org](http://www.agprocessors.org)

July 5, 2017

Mr. Armando Quintero  
Chairman  
California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Re: ***Support for Temperance Flat Reservoir***

Dear Chairman Quintero,

On behalf of the 128 tree nut hullers and processors of almonds, pecans, pistachios and walnuts represented by the Western Agricultural Processors Association (WAPA) in California, we wish to express our support for the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project. Given the recent drought that gripped the entire state, it was never more evident that additional water storage is needed. We believe that the construction and utilization of the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project will help address the water supply crisis here in the San Joaquin Valley by improving water supply availability and reliability south of the Delta.

The Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project will hold 1.26 million acre-feet of water storage. Combined with the existing Millerton Lake Storage, it will result in a combined water storage operation of 1.78 million acre-feet. This will finally allow the capture of high flows of water in years with high rainfall, such as 2016-2017, where as much as 2.5 million acre feet will be released as flood flows and not captured to use for water supply or groundwater recharge. In 17 out of the last 40 years, or 43% of the time, water has been released through Friant Dam on Millerton Lake as flood releases. Incredibly, in nine (9) of those years, more than 1 million acre-feet was lost to the ocean and not utilized here in the valley. The Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project will go a long ways in solving that incredible shortcoming.

Capturing these flows and allowing the gradual and timely release of water through the Friant-Kern and Madera Canals will provide the necessary water management to conduct important groundwater recharge and the most optimum usage of the valley's precious water supply. This is not only critical, but necessary to help the San Joaquin Valley meet the goals and objectives of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). In addition, these flows can provide important and much needed additional water, previously lost to the sea, for agriculture, cities, and the San Joaquin River itself.



Mr. Armano Quintero

July 6, 2017

Page 2

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The Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project clearly meets the goals and objectives of the California Water Bond as envisioned by those that wrote the legislation and those that voted for it. For all these reasons, WAPA respectfully urges the Commission to support this project to the fullest extent possible. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roger A. Isom".

Roger A. Isom  
President/CEO

C: Carol Baker, California Water Commission  
Andrew Ball, California Water Commission  
Joseph Byrne, California Water Commission  
Daniel Curtain, California Water Commission  
Joe Del Bosque, California Water Commission  
Maria Herrera, California Water Commission  
Catherine Keig, California Water Commission  
David Orth, California Water Commission  
Joe Yun, Executive Director, California Water Commission

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TELEPHONE 559.226.6330  
FAX 559.222.8326  
EMAIL [cffa@cafreshfruit.com](mailto:cffa@cafreshfruit.com)

7647 N. Fresno Street, Suite 103  
Fresno, CA 93720

Via Email: [joseph.yun@water.ca.gov](mailto:joseph.yun@water.ca.gov), [CWC@water.ca.gov](mailto:CWC@water.ca.gov)

July 10, 2017

Mr. Joe Yun, Executive Director  
California Water Commission  
P.O. Box 942836  
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Yun:

On behalf of the California Fresh Fruit Association I write to express support for the Temperance Flat Project and the application prepared by the San Joaquin Valley Joint Powers Authority (SJWIA). The California Fresh Fruit Association is a non-profit, agricultural trade association representing permanent crops (fruits) grown throughout the state. Many of our family farming operations suffered through the most recent drought period, in some cases solely relying upon groundwater supplies which exacerbated overdraft and led to problems with subsidence, reduced aquifer space, groundwater quality, and reduced productivity. We believe Temperance Flat is critically needed.

As you know, Temperance Flat Reservoir would be located on the San Joaquin River in the foothills northeast of Fresno, creating an additional 1.26 million acre-feet of water storage. That would add up to 1.78 million acre feet or be 3.4 times the existing capacity in Millerton Lake behind Friant Dam. Five record years of drought nearly emptied most of our region's reservoirs — until massive rain and snowstorms began pounding the Sierra Nevada this past winter with one of Central California's wettest water years ever experienced. Massive flood releases were required. There simply was not enough storage space available in Millerton Lake and other reservoirs to capture runoff to put towards beneficial use, including irrigation and recharge uses.

We believe the strain on surface water supplies will only continue, as evidenced by mandates onto exports south of the Delta that combined with Sustainable Groundwater Management Act further jeopardizes access to the surface water supplies needed to sustain farming activities and support dependent communities within the San Joaquin Valley.

We support the effort on the part of the SJWIA, which is strategically diverse in its representation of regional interests, to advance the San Joaquin Valley's desire to build Temperance Flat. To our knowledge, it has taken the lead on finalizing feasibility and operational studies and plans, as well as preparing an application for State Water Bond-Proposition 1 project funding that must be completed and filed by mid-August. We believe if funded, this project will help to restore aquifer health, provide needed irrigation supplies, help dependent communities, and contribute to environmental needs along the San Joaquin River and its affected watershed.

Thank you for your time and attention to this critical matter. To discuss further please feel free to contact me ([gradanovich@cafreshfruit.com](mailto:gradanovich@cafreshfruit.com)) or Christopher Valadez ([cvaladez@cafreshfruit.com](mailto:cvaladez@cafreshfruit.com)).

Sincerely,

George Radanovich  
President

Cc: Mario Santoyo, Executive Director, SJVJPA  
Christopher Valadez, Director, Environmental & Regulatory Affairs, California Fresh Fruit Asso



1775 N. Fine Street  
Fresno, CA 93721  
(559) 251-8468

Manuel Cunha, Jr.  
President

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*Alternate: Duane Abe*

Executive Board

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Doug Benik-2nd Vice President

Scott Peters, Secretary

Paul LanFranco-Treasurer

July 10, 2017

Mr. Armando Quintero, Chairman  
California Water Commission  
P O Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Armando,

On behalf of the Nisei Farmers League, representing over 1,000 agricultural families, we are pleased to offer our support for the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir project application in its search for funding from Proposition 1.

Temperance Flat will provide multiple benefits for not only the San Joaquin Valley, but will also provide flood protection, San Joaquin River environmental enhancement water, increase regional water management and water supply flexibility. In addition, surface water availability and reliability south of the Delta is key to helping solve multiple underground water issues.

The proposed site for the Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir project is ideal in maximizing flexibility for California's growing population and water issues. Temperance Flat is an innovative approach that can not only store water, but can also move water where it is needed most. New water for instream flows, groundwater recharge projects, recreation, and environmental uses will all be benefits of the proposed project.

It is with sincere hope that you will give positive consideration for this immensely needed project, Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir.

Sincerely,

Manuel Cunha, Jr.  
President



July 19, 2017

Mr. Armando Quintero  
Chair  
California Water Commission  
PO Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001  
Emailed to: [CWC@water.ca.gov](mailto:CWC@water.ca.gov)

RE: Support for Sites and Temperance Flat Projects

Dear Chairman Quintero:

Founded in 1926, Western Growers members are local and regional family farmers growing fresh produce in Arizona, California, Colorado and New Mexico. Our members and their workers provide half the nation's fresh fruits, vegetables and tree nuts, including half of America's fresh organic produce. It is on their behalf that we express our strong support for both the Sites Reservoir and Temperance Flat Reservoir projects in their applications for Proposition 1 public benefit funding.

One of the consequences of climate change is that California's historic precipitation and runoff patterns will change, resulting in greater unreliability of the Sierra snowpack. We must now contend with less snowpack along with faster, flashier and more chaotic runoff into our existing storage and conveyance infrastructure. Indeed, we may have already begun to experience such changes. This year's record-breaking rain and snow accumulations, coming on the heels of the worst recorded drought ever experienced, vividly demonstrates the need to adapt and enhance a system designed in a climatic era that no longer exists, and for a state population less than half of what it is today.

From October 1, 2016 through July 9, 2017 (nine months of the current water year), more than 50 million acre feet of water flowed into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. After accounting for diversions for in-Delta use and exports by the State Water Project and Central Valley Project, more than 46 million acre feet flowed out to the ocean.

The Sites Project would add up to 1.8 million acre feet of capacity in an off-stream reservoir north of the Delta. State and federal water project operations in recent years have demonstrated the great need for this project as operators struggled with conflicting demands on the Sacramento River system. The Sites Project would provide critically needed flexibility for system operators by capturing high runoff flows on the Sacramento River and allowing later releases from Sites or upstream reservoirs for environmental and economic uses.

Temperance Flat Reservoir would be located on the San Joaquin River in the foothills northeast of Fresno and would create an additional 1.26 million acre-feet of water storage. Combined with the existing Millerton Lake, the complex would provide storage capacity of 1.78 million acre feet. The need is obvious: In 17 of the last 40 years, water has been released from Millerton Lake (Friant Dam) for flood control purposes, due to lack of storage capacity. This season alone Millerton will have released approximately 2.5 million acre feet to the ocean, lost for groundwater recharge or water supply.



Mr. Armando Quintero

July 19, 2017

Page 2

The voters of California approved Proposition 1 by a margin of more than two-to-one, and they had a clear understanding, in the midst of a historic drought, that they were being asked whether California should invest in new water storage projects. Governor Brown and other signatories of the official ballot argument in support of Proposition 1 wrote in relevant part: “Proposition 1 invests in *new storage increasing the amount of water that can be stored during wet years* for the dry years that will continue to challenge California.” (Emphasis added.)

As surface water storage projects, Sites and Temperance Flat provide the only means of capturing and storing heavy snowmelt and rain runoff – especially in wet years – that can be later utilized for groundwater recharge. Without this surface storage supply, groundwater recharge opportunities are lost as flood flows cannot be accommodated by saturated recharge lands. As the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act is implemented, the need for this capacity and flexibility is greater than ever.

Both projects would also provide needed additional flood protection for communities throughout the Central Valley.

These projects will help make California’s water system more efficient and reliable. The projects help meet the objectives of the California Water Action Plan by providing a substantial supply of high-quality water to support the economy and the environment.

We respectfully urge the Commission to support both the Sites Reservoir Project and the Temperance Flat Reservoir Project to the fullest extent possible.

Sincerely,

Dave Puglia  
Executive Vice President

C: Carol Baker, Member, California Water Commission  
Andrew Ball, Member, California Water Commission  
Joseph Byrne, Member, California Water Commission  
Daniel Curtain, Member, California Water Commission  
Joe Del Bosque, Member, California Water Commission  
Maria Herrera, Member, California Water Commission  
Catherine Keig, Member, California Water Commission  
David Orth, Member, California Water Commission  
Joe Yun, Executive Officer, California Water Commission  
Jim Watson, General Manager, Sites Project Authority  
Mario Santoyo, Executive Director, San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority