



June 16, 2023

Erik Ekdahl, Deputy Director
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Sent via electronic mail only

Subject: Application A025517X01 of Sites Project Authority, Analysis with Voluntary Agreements (JH:A025517X01)

Dear Mr. Ekdahl:

The Sites Project Authority submitted a water right application for the Sites Reservoir Project (Project) on May 11, 2022 and supplemental materials on January 6, 2023. On January 5, 2023, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released its Draft Scientific Basis Report Supplement in Support of Proposed Voluntary Agreements for the Sacramento River, Delta, and Tributaries (Supplemental Scientific Basis Report). The Supplemental Scientific Basis Report includes modeling of the proposed Voluntary Agreements based on the latest approximation of Voluntary Agreement flow assets for a “Default Plan” flow schedule. This modeling, while approximate, provides a representation of the resulting changes in Delta outflow under the proposed agreements. As the Supplemental Scientific Basis Report was released the day prior to when our supplemental materials were due on January 6, it was not possible for the Authority to complete a quantitative analysis of the Project and the Voluntary Agreements in our submittal. Our January 6, 2023 submittal addressed the Voluntary Agreements qualitatively.

Through discussions with State Water Board staff, the Authority understood that the State Water Board staff wanted the Authority to complete a quantitative analysis of how the Sites Project diversions could affect Delta outflow under the Voluntary Agreements. The Authority also understood that the State Water Board staff wanted further explanation of how the Sites Project diversions might interact with the Voluntary Agreements. By letter dated April 27, 2023, the Authority proposed to complete quantitative analyses to address these two items and submit these analyses no later than June 16, 2023. The quantitative analyses of how the Sites Project potential diversions could affect Delta outflow under the Voluntary Agreements and further explanation of how the Sites Project potential diversions might interact with the Voluntary Agreements, including analysis approach, assumptions and



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results are included in the attached Technical Memorandum. Based on the State Water Board's May 5, 2023 responsive letter on these matters, the Authority understands that the Division of Water Rights intends to publicly release the attached Technical Memorandum within one business day of receipt.

We appreciate the State Water Board staff noticing the Project's water right application and staff's continued efforts on this urgently needed Project as we work to develop a 21st Century, climate adapted, water storage system for the benefit of California's farms, cities, and environment for generations to come. If there are any questions on this letter please contact me at jbrown@sitesproject.org or 925-260-7417 or Alicia Forsythe, Environmental Planning and Permitting Manager, at aforsythe@sitesproject.org or 916-880-0676.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jerry Brown'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jerry Brown
Executive Director

Enclosure

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