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(925) 454-5000

August 8, 2025

Laura Jensen
Executive Officer
California Water Commission
Delivered via email to: Laura.Jensen@water.ca.gov

Dear Ms. Jensen,

On behalf of the Zone 7 Water Agency, which serves the Tri-Valley region of the East Bay, I write to express our strong support for reallocating Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) funding to the Sites Reservoir Project. This project is critical to ensuring long-term water supply reliability for our community of 270,000 residents.

Sites Reservoir is a multi-benefit, off-stream water storage project that will serve municipalities, the environment, and agriculture. It has broad support from across the state, including urban and agricultural agencies and the Sacramento Valley community. Sites will store water during wet years and make it available during dry years, which is increasingly important as climate change accelerates the cycle of extreme storms and prolonged droughts.

California currently lacks the infrastructure to capture and store excess flows from the Sacramento River for later use. Sites Reservoir fills that gap and is especially well-suited to the future hydrology anticipated by climate models.

Both state leaders and scientists have underscored the urgency of investing in climate-resilient infrastructure like Sites. Now more than ever, we must support innovative, flexible storage solutions to secure a sustainable water future for California.

Notably, Sites will be the first reservoir in California designed to capture and store water specifically for environmental purposes, supporting fish and habitat. The project introduces a groundbreaking model for managing dedicated environmental water, with the environment as the single largest user of water from the reservoir.

Sites offers significant statewide benefits. Its support base reflects this: the project is backed by a diverse coalition of cities, farms, businesses, and communities from Northern to Southern California.

For Zone 7, Sites is essential to our ability to maintain water supply reliability for drinking water, blending, and groundwater basin health. As climate variability increases, we must be able to safely store water during wet years for use during dry years to sustain our region's quality of life, economic vitality, and environmental health.



We urge you to act with urgency and support the reallocation of funding to help make this vital project a reality.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Valerie L. Pryor

Valerie Pryor
General Manager
Zone 7 Water Agency