



August 18, 2025

California Water Commission
Via E-Mail cwc@water.ca.gov

RE: Aug. 20, 2025 Commission Meeting, Agenda Item 10
Support for Removal of Cap on Early WSIP Funding

Dear Chair Steiner and Members of the Commission:

On behalf of the Secure Water Alliance, we write to express our strong support for the proposed action that would remove the dollar amount cap for early allocation of Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) funds. The Secure Water Alliance's members, constituting labor, business, and community interests, are dedicated to ensuring a safe, affordable, reliable, and abundant water supply, in order to support economic growth, environmental sustainability, and water security for all, including our state's many disadvantaged communities. As such, we have long supported the Sites Reservoir Project and efforts to bring it online as quickly as possible.

The 2025 Californians and the Environment survey by the Public Policy Institute of California showed that 82% of Californians see the state's water supply as a problem that needs attention. Should the Commission approve the proposed regulatory change to remove the five percent cap on Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determination (MCED) funding, the resulting public benefit will send a signal to the people of California that the water infrastructure they voted for with Proposition 1 in 2014 is actually moving forward.

A positive vote on the regulation will recognize that the costs of environmental documentation and permitting are rising, making the current five percent cap unreasonably low. And a positive vote will not change the total amount of WSIP funding the Sites Reservoir or other projects can receive, nor will it alter or reduce the regulatory approvals required of these projects.

Therefore, we respectfully ask for your yes vote in support of the removal of the WSIP cap (Item 10 on your August 20th Commission Agenda).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Lambros", written in a cursive style.

Richard Lambros
Executive Director