

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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December 12, 2018

United States Bureau of Reclamation
Commissioner Brenda Burman
1849 C Street NW #7654
Washington DC 20240

Dear Commissioner Burman:

At the outset I would like to thank you for the time and effort you have spent over the last several months working hand in hand with me on California water. For many years the Federal and State Water Projects have operated collaboratively, creatively, and responsibly to serve California residents, fuel its economy, and protect its resources and I believe that should continue as we move forward.

These efforts have served to promote the beneficial uses of California's water resources, to further their common goals of improving water supply reliability in California, and to further the protection, restoration, and enhancement of the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River watersheds and Delta ecosystem. We must continue to work together as we face additional challenges to managing California's water supply, such as climate change.

Addressing California's water issues requires a suite of actions, each with independent utility, but equally important to solving to California's unique circumstances. One such piece is an Addendum to the Coordinated Operations Agreement. This Addendum, which I have signed today, is only one action that we have committed to throughout our discussions. As we move forward, I look to you to continue to honor your commitment to work through continued development the remaining actions that include, coordination on Reconsultation on Long Term Operations, investment in critical infrastructure, commitment to continued work on the Voluntary Settlements for the Water Quality Control Plan, and continued coordination in implementing the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. Each of these actions must ensure an approach that enables compliance with state law.

While each of these actions have independent utility, from a policy perspective, they are all necessary tools for the State and Federal governments to continue having a productive partnership in managing our limited water resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karla A. Nemeth".

Karla A. Nemeth
Director