



June 13, 2017

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

RE: Support for Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Proposition 1 Application

Dear Chair Quintero:

This letter is to express the support of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA) for the Water Supply Investment Program application submitted for Proposition 1 funding for the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project.

BAWSCA represents the interests of 16 cities, 8 water districts, and 2 private water providers that deliver water to over 1.7 million people and 40,000 commercial, industrial and institutional accounts in Alameda, San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. The entities purchase water on a wholesale basis from the San Francisco Regional Water System (SF RWS).

In 2014, California voters approved \$2.7 billion in funding for water storage projects as part of Proposition 1: the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Act of 2014. The approval by voters signaled that they understand the importance of water storage and are willing to fund construction projects. The recent drought followed by the wettest year on record only further highlighted the state-wide need for more storage to prepare for drought and flood emergencies.

Los Vaqueros Reservoir is an off-stream reservoir in Brentwood, with fully screened Delta intakes, that has the potential to provide multiple public benefits that qualify for Proposition 1 funding. The public benefits this project provides include: supply for South-of-Delta wildlife refuges; drought and emergency preparedness; statewide integration potential; protection of water quality; and recreation enhancement.

The reservoir is currently owned and operated by Contra Costa Water District. Regional partners have now evaluated the expansion for public benefits and benefits for their own agencies.

Expanding Los Vaqueros Reservoir is a project that embodies what the voters approved when they passed Proposition 1. This is a forward-thinking project that would operate surface storage in a unique way for regional and environmental benefits.

We appreciate the California Water Commission's consideration of this important project and encourage the Commission to approve the Proposition 1 funding application.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact Tom Francis, BAWSCA's Water Resources Manager, at (650) 349-3000 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicole Sandkulla".

Nicole Sandkulla
CEO/General Manager

cc: California Water Commission Members