

May 20, 2022

Mr. Wade Crowfoot, Secretary  
California Natural Resources Agency  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mr. Jared Blumenfeld, Secretary  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Crowfoot and Secretary Blumenfeld:

On March 29, 2022, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed as part of the advancement of California’s Voluntary Agreements (VAs) program. As State Water Project (SWP) contractors, the below signed public water agencies are proud to support this program. The VAs directly align with the mission and goals of the Newsom administration’s Water Resilience Portfolio and represent California’s greatest opportunity to adapt our water management practices to meet the urgent challenges presented by extended drought and climate change.

The VAs serve as a comprehensive, eight-year solution for science-based water management in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its tributaries, integrating flow and habitat actions to improve and protect the ecosystem while preserving adequate supplies for the 35 million Californians who also depend on this water – including the 2.4 million Southern California residents served by our agencies. In addition, our region provides much-needed affordable housing to Californians, and as our populations grow, a stable water supply is increasingly important. While our customers have continued to reduce their per capita water use and we continue to diversify our supplies, the SWP remains a critical component of our water supply portfolio.

Due to the ongoing drought and the intensity of climate extremes, Californians cannot afford to take a decades-long regulatory or litigious approach to manage our water needs – time is not on our side when it comes to securing California’s water future for communities and the environment. With unprecedented commitments and momentum, the time for a watershed-wide approach to managing California’s natural resources in the Delta and beyond is now.

While there is still much work to be done on the continued development of the program based on the term sheet, including early implementation actions, assessment metrics, and details of the commitments, we are supportive of the Newsom administration moving this agreement forward as an alternative for the update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. It has taken many years to get to this point, and your leadership has been instrumental in advancing the program to this significant milestone. We would like to express our gratitude and support as you work to advance this important component of a sustainable water supply for all Californians.

Sincerely,



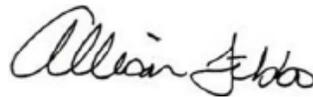
Jim Barrett, General Manager  
Coachella Valley Water District



Lance Eckhart, General Manager  
San Geronio Pass Water Agency



Jennifer Spindler, General Manager  
Crestline – Lake Arrowhead Water Agency



Allison Febbo, General Manager  
Mojave Water Agency



Dennis D. LaMoreaux, General Manager  
Palmdale Water District



Mark S. Krause, General Manager  
Desert Water Agency



Heather Dyer, General Manager  
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District



Darin Kasamoto, General Manager  
San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District



Dwayne Chisam, General Manager  
Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency



James Chaisson, General Manager  
Littlerock Creek Irrigation District