



SECRETARY-WATERMASTER:
RICHARD L. SCHAFER
ASSISTANT WATERMASTER:
DAVID DE GROOT
MEMBER AGENCIES:
PIONEER WATER COMPANY
VANDALIA WATER DISTRICT
PORTERVILLE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
LOWER TULE RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT
DOWNSTREAM KAWEAH & TULE RIVERS ASSOCIATION

February 13, 2017

The Honorable Devon Nunes
The Honorable Ed Royce
The Honorable David Valadao
The Honorable Dana Rohrabacher
The Honorable Paul Cook
The Honorable Darrell Issa
The Honorable Mimi Walters

The Honorable Ken Calvert
The Honorable Steve Knight
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
The Honorable Duncan D. Hunter
The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
The Honorable Tom McClintock

Re: H. R. 23

Dear Members of Congress,

After reviewing H.R. 23, 124 pages, I commend each of you for the specific and detailed proposed amendments and cessation of existing acts, particularly the Central Valley Improvement Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-575) and the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement (Public Law 111-11). The provisions on page 19, Failure of the Plan, should have been the basis for the original allocation of the 800,000 a.f. of CVP yield to Fish and Wildlife and on page 26 directing the Secretary of Interior to cease any action to implement the San Joaquin River Settlement Act are prime examples.

We realize the legislation has a long way to go before it becomes law, but you should be reassured that those of us who manage water in the Central Valley, and particularly Tulare County California, unanimously support H. R. 23 and with the pending State Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, the importance of additional supplemental water for the Friant-Kern Canal service area is even more important. The Tulare County Water Commission and the Tulare County Board of Supervisors have enacted support positions for H.R. 23.

With respect to additional storage in California, the Bureau of Reclamation has been paralyzed by the environmentalists and done nothing toward their responsibility established by the CVPIA under Section 3408(j).

Having been active in water resources of California for nearly 60 years, it is my opinion the enlargement of Shasta Lake would be the most important additional storage project that could be created for California. History has shown that storms track more

frequently through and the precipitation is greater in quantity in Northern California for the watersheds of the streams that are tributary to Shasta Dam, namely the Sacramento River, the Pit River and the McCloud River. The Bureau of Reclamation prepared a report entitled Enlarging Shasta Lake, Central Valley Basin California, Working Document No. 13, November 1978 that proposed the raising of the dam 133 feet, creating a total storage of 10-million a.f. and providing an additional yield for the CVP of 1-million a.f. At that time, 1978 price level, the cost would have been \$1.2-billion. Enclosed is a copy of the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Working Document No. 13 for your review and realization of what should have been, had it not been for the continued environmental activities in the State of California.

Again, thank you for H. R. 23 and you can be reassured that Central Valley agriculture unanimously supports the Bill, and should there be actions that we can perform to help pass the H.R. 23, please advise.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. L. Schafer".

R. L. Schafer, P.E., R.C.E., R.A.E.
Watermaster

enclosure