



February 4, 2016

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR DROUGHT RELIEF ACT

Dear Senator Feinstein:

Thank you for your continued efforts to introduce and seek passage of a drought relief act that will provide critical funding for many water projects across California. As one of the water recycling project sponsors identified in your draft legislation cited as the "*California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions for Emergency Drought Relief Act*", we provide this letter as support for your provisions that will allow projects like ours to be eligible to pursue critical federal funding to construct our project.

We strongly support your efforts to streamline the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program. Many projects have obtained feasibility study approval from the Bureau of Reclamation, but the inability to secure a project authorization has shut off the construction funding pathway. Delta Diablo is developing projects that will be capable of providing 5,000 AFY or more of high quality water for many industrial or landscape uses. These projects also have obtained feasibility study and NEPA approval from the Bureau of Reclamation, but have not been eligible for federal construction funding. Thank you for your legislation which will provide a much needed fix by eliminating the project authorization obstacle and authorizing additional funds to the program.

As California continues to experience record-breaking drought conditions, increased demand for water, and strain on existing surface and groundwater supplies, alternative water supplies like those in your drought relief act provide a long-term sustainable solution that is essential to California's economy. Thank you for your leadership in drafting legislation that will allow local agencies to partner with federal and state agencies for funding assistance to develop sustainable water supplies for California and the nation.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Darling
General Manager

JS/GWD:dcj

cc:

District File CORP.01-CORRES