



**Dublin San Ramon
Services District**
Water, wastewater, recycled water

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February 10, 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. Dublin San Ramon Services District is one of the water recycling project sponsors identified in your draft legislation, the *"California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions for Emergency Drought Relief Act."* We provide this letter as support for provisions that will allow us to pursue federal funding critical to constructing our project.

We strongly support your efforts to streamline the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program and eliminate the hurdle of Congressional authorization for individual projects. Many recycled water projects have obtained feasibility study approval from the Bureau of Reclamation but remained blocked on the pathway to construction funding. Congress does not approve funding for individual transportation projects or critical infrastructure for other utilities.

Our Recycled Water Expansion Project will enlarge our recycled water treatment plant to meet increasing demands for recycled water. Without this project we will meet these demands with water from the San Francisco Bay Delta. The project will add approximately 6.5 million gallons per day (mgd) to the plant's current 10 mgd capacity and yield approximately 6,460 acre-feet of additional recycled water for DSRSD's service area. The project also will extend recycled water pipelines to existing schools, parks, streetscapes, and commercial and institutional facilities in established areas of Dublin to permanently reduce potable water demand by approximately 350 acre-feet per year.

Your legislation provides a much needed fix by eliminating the project authorization obstacle and authorizing additional funds for both the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program and WaterSMART. These appropriations will allow agencies like ours to seek the funding we need to move our project into construction and augment our drought-tolerant water supplies.

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California continues to experience drought conditions. Demand for water is increasing the strain on existing surface and groundwater supplies. Alternative water supplies like those in your Drought Relief Act provide a long-term solution 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 to develop sustainable water supplies for California and the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Archer", with a long, sweeping underline.

John Archer
General Manager

cc: John Watts, Legislative Director