

July 27, 2017

Mr. Joe Yun, Executive Director
California Water Commission
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

RE: Fresno Council of Governments Letter of Support for Temperance Flat Dam

Dear Mr. Yun:

I am writing this letter as Chairman of the Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board, and on behalf of the nearly one million citizens that comprise Fresno County. As you are aware, five consecutive years of drought nearly emptied most of our region's water reservoirs, only to be followed by one of California's wettest water years ever. Unfortunately, the massive rain and snowstorms created a situation where flood releases were required because there was simply not enough storage space available in Millerton Lake and other reservoirs at a time when the overriding need was to capture and put every drop of mountain run-off to beneficial use. This season alone Millerton will have released approximately 2.5 million acre feet to the Pacific Ocean.

While these flood releases are not a new dilemma, the **lack of adequate San Joaquin River storage capability** creates problems because there is no ability to capture and store the high Sierra runoff while it is occurring. The San Joaquin Valley's ongoing water crisis, caused by the Delta's many mandates reducing north state water supplies, and looming impacts of the new Sustainable Groundwater Management Act each require likely solutions that involve ample new water storage and infrastructure located south of the troubled Delta. Fresno COG believes strongly that Temperance Flat Dam is the solution to many of our water storage challenges.

Temperance Flat Reservoir would be located on the San Joaquin River in the foothills northeast of Fresno. Its dam would actually be located in the upper portion of the Central Valley Project's Millerton Lake. It would be a huge project, creating an additional 1.26 million acre-feet of water storage. That would add up to 1.78 million acre feet or be 3.4 times the existing capacity in Millerton Lake behind Friant Dam. There can be no doubt that Temperance Flat Dam is the right engineering solution to address the critical need for water storage in the San Joaquin Valley region.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to contact Fresno COG Executive Director Tony Boren at 559-233-4148 Ext 204 or via email at tboren@fresnocog.org.

Sincerely,

Amarpreet Dhaliwal, Chairman
Fresno Council of Governments Policy Board

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City of Firebaugh
City of Fowler
City of Fresno
City of Huron
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