

Sites Reservoir Project Monthly Status Report

Report Period: **January 2022**

Monthly Status Summary:

The development of the Sites Project continues to make progress in the critical areas including the following activities:

Engineering:

- Initiated the transition of duties to the new Engineering and Construction Manager which is expected to occur officially on March 1.
- Continued coordination and planning efforts for design-level geologic and geotechnical engineering investigations.
- Continued coordination with GCID staff to analyze optimization of the TRR project feature.
- Continued development of project procurement and delivery strategy.

Coordination with Reclamation:

- Ongoing coordination with Reclamation on expanded operations for anadromous fish benefits.
- Submitted a new Financial Assistance Agreement to Reclamation to secure reimbursement for \$6.9 million of Amendment 2 and 3 costs. The document is in the signature process which is expected to take up to 6 months.
- Ongoing coordination with Reclamation on the NEPA process and schedule for preparing the Final EIR/EIS and federal Record of Decision, including presenting the proposed Final EIR/EIS outline to Reclamation Management.

Environmental Planning and Permitting:

- Continued development of the Final EIR/EIS format and approach to any revised analysis.
- With the receipt of public comments, began numbering, sorting and categorizing comments.
- Ongoing outreach under AB52 consultation process.
- Ongoing coordination with Modeling and Permitting teams on approach for Final EIR/EIS updated analysis and responses to comments.
- Development of draft schedule for completion of Final EIR/EIS.
- Continued discussions with CDFW staff on the approach and analysis methodology for the Operations ITP applications.
- Reinitiated discussions with Reclamation on the approach and analysis methodology for the Biological Assessment.

- Submitted the Project's Construction ITP application.
- Continued coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and SWRCB on the Clean Water Act 404 and 401 permit applications effort.
- Continued meetings with TCCA and GCID to discuss the Clean Water Act permitting approach as it relates to their existing infrastructure.
- Continued environmental permit preparation for early 2022 geotechnical activities.
- Continued monthly water right coordination meetings with SWRCB staff and discussion of Project description, proposed exchanges, and the approach to the Project's water availability analysis.
- Continued development of water right application, water availability analysis and refinement of the Project's place of use and points of diversion with Participant input.
- Prepared for and held two resource agency workshops focusing on aquatics and fisheries.

Operations:

- Finalized Version 1 of the Draft Reservoir Operations Plan and posted it to the participant portal.
- Finalized criteria for modeling associated with the biological assessment, including climate change scenarios. Coordinated those criteria with Reclamation.
- Continued technical discussions with DWR and Reclamation on operating term sheets and "close excess" conditions.
- Began developing modeling schedule and requirements for Final EIR/EIS.

Stakeholder Engagement, Public Outreach & Real Estate:

- Completed outreach to potential legal firms for the RE/AA RFQ.

Program Management & Administration:

- Responded to Participant informational requests related to Home board coordination efforts. Staff is encouraging Participants to provide feedback related to additional items to consider in the 2021 Draft Guiding Principles and Preliminary Terms and the 2021 Draft Plan of Finance by April 1, 2022.
- The development of a financial audit firm RFQ was initiated last month and will be issued in February.
- The development of a real estate and Inter-agency agreements legal services RFQ was initiated last month and will be issued in February.