

From: Ashley Overhouse <ashley@friendsoftheriver.org>
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 4:49 PM
To: aforsythe@sitesproject.org; vking@usbr.gov; EIR-EIS-Comments@sitesproject.org
Cc: Ron Stork; Mike Conroy; Nicholas Jensen; erin.woolley@sierraclub.org; Glen Spain; Isabella Langone
Subject: Request for Extension of Time to Provide Public Comment on the RDEIR/SDEIS for the Sites Reservoir Project
Attachments: FOR and Coalition Sites EIS-EIR Extension Request 121321.pdf

Dear Ms. Forsythe and Ms. King,

Friends of the River and allied organizations respectfully request a 31-day extension of time to provide public comment on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report/Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (“RDEIR/SDEIS”) for the Sites Reservoir Project. See attached letter.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. We look forward to hearing from you.

Best,

Ashley Overhouse, J.D., LL.M
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Pronouns: she, her, hers
[Help us protect California’s rivers](#)



December 13, 2021

Ms. Alicia Forsythe
 Sites Project Authority
 P.O. Box 517
 Maxwell, CA 95955

Ms. Vanessa King
 Bureau of Reclamation
 2800 Cottage Way, Room W-2830
 Sacramento, CA 95825

Submitted electronically to: aforsythe@sitesproject.org, vking@usbr.gov, EIR-EIS-Comments@SitesProject.org

Re: Request for Extension of Time to Provide Public Comment on the RDEIR/SDEIS for the Sites Reservoir Project

Dear Ms. Forsythe and Ms. King,

Friends of the River (FOR) is a statewide organization that is dedicated to protecting and restoring rivers. FOR and allied organizations respectfully request a brief 31-day extension of time to provide public comment on the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Report/Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (“RDEIR/SDEIS”) for the Sites Reservoir Project.

The RDEIR/SDEIS was circulated for public review on November 12, 2021, making the deadline for public comment January 11, 2022. Most of this time period overlaps with the holiday season, which means that the FOR team and many other organizations will not have the ability to adequately review the RDEIR/SDEIS. Additionally, the RDEIR/SDEIS and associated appendices are thousands of pages of complex technical material that evaluate three new project alternatives that include reservoir sizes from 1.3 to 1.5 million acre-feet. This important environmental analysis will have significant implications for the Project, the Sacramento and Trinity Rivers, and California’s sustainable water future. FOR and others need to have time to provide meaningful feedback. Finally, an extension of the comment period will not impact the overall Environmental Review Process and Timeline, which does not anticipate of the release of the Final EIR/EIS until Fall 2022. For these reasons, we request to extend the comment deadline to February 11, 2022.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact Friends of the River’s Senior Policy Advocate, Ron Stork, rstork@friendsoftheriver.org, or Resilient Rivers Director, Ashley Overhouse, ashley@friendsoftheriver.org, if you have questions, concerns, or require additional documentation.

Sincerely,



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