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**SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY**

January 27, 2022

Sites Project Authority  
Jerry Brown, Executive Director  
P.O. Box 517  
Maxwell CA. 95955

Dear Mr. Brown, et al.

The Sites Project Authority has not established a public record in the RDEIR/SDESI and associated documents that supports the continuation of the proposed project.

After years of pursuing the Sites Project, deadlines have not been met to secure funding for the project as proposed in November 2021. Timelines for WIIN funding expired on December 16th 2021. Who will pay and who will benefit has not been documented.

The environmental impacts of additional diversions from the Sacramento River are not adequately described in the proposed project. Currently California is experiencing multi-year droughts that have decimated aquatic resources such as salmon. The main stem of the Sacramento River is currently devoid of the microfauna the support fish species including salmon as documented by University of California aquatic resource studies.<sup>1</sup> The proposed project fails to document how additional diversions will effect this water quality problem.

The ongoing drought in California continues with less than 0.1 inches of rain in January 2022, a near record low. The proposal is mute on how additional diversions from the Sacramento River can be accommodate

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<sup>1</sup> C. Lee, [Research Tests How Rice Fields Can Benefit Fish](#), Ag Alert (CFB), 3/25/2020.

this “Global Warming” effect. Climatic change has overtaken the predictability of projected rainfall that will be necessary for the project to safely divert water without resource destruction.

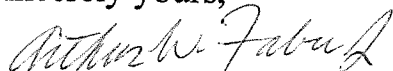
The idea that the Proposed Project will provide “...substantial benefit to the environment..”<sup>2</sup>, is not reasonable from the documents provided and has not been adequately qualified by demonstrating economic feasibility.

The “Trump Era” Secretarial Feasibility Demonstration Letter uses a specious Biological Determination for a project that is significantly different from the much modified final Proposed Project. The validity of this document is currently in litigation and therefore it should not be deemed appropriate for justifying the Project as finally proposed.

Moreover, the purpose of Public Notice is to enable public comments. The SPA is attempting to forward this much delayed and ill conceived project during the Covid crisis shutdown and over the traditional Holiday season—the last hours of the year 2021. Reasonable opportunities for Public Comment are being avoided.

I believe this Proposed Project fails to meet the requirements for approval at many levels. Let California move on to reasonable projects that forward the best available water quality outcomes.

Sincerely yours,



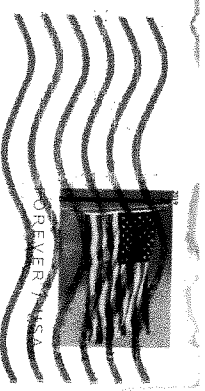
Arthur W. Fabre Jr.

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<sup>2</sup> Public Comment Period Extended for Sites Reservoir Revised/Supplemental Draft Environmental Documents, M. Brown (SPA), 12/22/2022

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