

Topic: Authority Board Agenda Item 2.1 July 21, 2023

Subject: 2022 Financial Audit Report

#### Requested Action:

Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of the 2022 Financial Auditor's Report.

#### Detailed Description/Background:

The Authority is required under the JPA to have an annual audit performed. Fechter and Company, CPA (Fechter) continues to be the Authority's auditor and has concluded an examination of the Authority's financial information, including fiscal year 2022.

The 2022 Financial Audit, which included a Single Audit, found no significant or reportable findings. There were no recommended improvements for strengthening internal controls and operation efficiency identified in the 2022 report.

The credit reimbursement liability was increased from \$8,806,665 in 2021 to \$9,039,559 in 2022 due to adjustments in participation level made by Participants prior to entering into Amendment 3 of the Project Agreement. As a reminder, the Board has adopted a "Sites Reservoir Project, Phase 1 and 2, Funding and Credit Reimbursement Policy" (the "Policy"). The Policy identifies eligible prior cash contributions ("Contribution Credit") made by Participants who have either partially or fully reduced their participation level. Contribution Credit will be considered for refunding at a future date subject to conditions specified in the policy. It is envisioned that a "true up" of all past and future costs against final participation amounts would occur at the time Participants are getting their authority to sign the B&O. The cost to pay down the credit reimbursement liability would be charged to Phase 3 Participants (B&O signatories) according to the cost allocation defined in the B&O contract. Once these costs are collected, the Authority will reimburse prior participants for their Contribution Credit, thereby clearing the credit reimbursement liability.

The audit results were reviewed and accepted by the B&F Committee. The auditor will present at the Board meeting and be prepared to respond to any questions.

#### **Prior Action:**

Preparer: Trapasso Authority Agent: Trapasso Approver: Brown Page: 1 of 2

May 2022: Approved a new contract with Fechter to conduct Authority fiscal years 2021, 2022, and 2023 independent annual financial audits that include a federal "Single Audit".

#### <u>Fiscal Impact/Funding Source</u>:

The 2022 financial audit was completed within the budgeted funds.

#### **Staff Contact:**

Joe Trapasso

#### Attachments:

Attachment A - Sites Project Authority Annual Financial Report 2022

Attachment B - Sites Project Authority Management Report 2022

Attachment C - Sites Project Authority Management Representation Letter 2022

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
With
Independent Auditor's Report Thereon
DECEMBER 31, 2022

# Annual Financial Report December 31, 2022

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Organization of Authority and List of Board of Directors December 31, 2022

Sites Project Authority (the Authority) was established on August 26, 2010, when seven regional entities, including several local water agencies and Counties, executed the Joint Exercise of Power Agreement. The primary purpose of the Authority, as stated in the agreement, is to pursue the development and construction of the Sites Reservoir Project, which has long been viewed as an ideal location for additional off stream storage to provide direct and real benefits to instream flows, the Delta ecosystem, and water supply. In keeping their commitment to move the project forward on behalf of the region, the Authority has spent the last twelve years working towards this goal by engaging the public, various stakeholders, state and federal agencies, and landowners, initiating the required environmental planning process, and conducting feasibility studies, among other efforts.

#### **GOVERNING BOARD**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	Member Represented
Fritz Durst	Chair	Reclamation District 108
Jeff Sutton	Vice Chair	Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority
Gary Evans	Member	County of Colusa
Ken Hahn	Member	County of Glenn
Logan Dennis	Member	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
Gray Allen	Member	Placer County Water Agency
Doug Parker	Member	Westside Water District
Joe Marsh	Member	Colusa County Water District
Jeff Harris	Member	Sacramento County Water Agency
Jamie Traynham	Associate Member - Non-Voting	TC 4 Districts
Greg Johnson	Associate Member - Non-Voting	Western Canal Water District
Don Bader	Cost-Share Partner - Non-Voting	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Rob Cooke	Ex-Officio - Non-Voting	CA Department of Water Resources



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

#### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Sites Project Authority (the Authority), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Authority as of December 31, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Authority 's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Board of Directors Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that
  raise substantial doubt about the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable
  period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 5-9 and 20–22 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial

Board of Directors Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express.

#### **Other Information**

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated July 14, 2023, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Fechter & Company

Certified Public Accountants

Echter + Company

Sacramento, California //

July 14, 2023

Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2022

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) of activities and financial performance of the Sites Project Authority (the Authority) provides an introduction to the financial statements of the Authority for the year ended December 31, 2022, and a comparison to the prior audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the transmittal letter in the Introductory Section and with the basic financial statements and related notes, which follow this section.

#### Financial Highlights

- The Authority's assets exceed liabilities by \$21,238,805 as of December 31, 2022.
- The Authority's revenues exceeded expenditures by \$8,352,099 for the year ending December 31, 2022. The Authority's largest expense was for professional services. Professional services were 98% of total expenses for the year ending December 31, 2022.

#### Required Financial Statements

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities* provide information about the activities and performance of the Authority using accounting methods similar to those used by private sector companies.

The *Statement of Net Position* includes all of the Authority's investments in resources (assets) and the obligations to creditors (liabilities). It also provides the basis for computing a rate of return, evaluating the capital structure of the Authority, and assessing the liquidity and financial flexibility of the Authority. All of the current period's revenue and expenses are accounted for in the *Statement of Activities*. This statement measures the success of the Authority's operations over the past year and can be used to determine if the Authority has successfully recovered all of its costs through its revenues. This statement can also be used to evaluate profitability and credit worthiness.

More detailed information about the Authority's most significant funds – not the Authority as a whole, is provided in the fund financial statements. Funds are accounting devices the Authority uses to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending on particular programs. The *Balance Sheet* for governmental funds presents financial information by fund types showing money left at year-end available for spending. The *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances* for all governmental fund types focuses on how money flows into and out of the various funds.

#### Financial Analysis of the Authority

One of the most important questions asked about the Authority finances is, "Is the Authority better off or worse off as a result of this year's activities?" The *Statement of Net Position* and the *Statement of Activities* report information about the Authority in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2022

These two statements report the Authority's net assets and changes in them. You can think of the Authority's net assets – the difference between assets and liabilities – as one way to measure the Authority's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Authority's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. However, one will need to consider other non-financial factors such as changes in economic conditions, population growth, zoning, and new or changed government legislation, such as changes in Federal and State regulations.

#### Notes to the Basic Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the basic financial statements.

#### Statement of Net Position

As discussed earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Authority, assets exceeded liabilities by \$21,238,805 and \$12,886,706 as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

	2022	2021	Change
Assets			
Cash and investments	\$24,276,372	\$17,226,150	\$ 7,050,222
Other current assets	9,041,717	5,693,555	3,348,162
Total Assets	33,318,089	22,919,705	10,398,384
Liabilities			
Current liabilities	12,079,284	10,032,999	2,046,285
Total Liabilities	12,079,284	10,032,999	2,046,285
Net Position			
Unrestricted	21,238,805	12,886,706	8,352,099
Total Net Position	\$21,238,805	\$12,886,706	\$ 8,352,099

The largest portion, 73% of the Authority's assets, was cash and investments as of December 31, 2022.

Current liabilities increased from \$10,032,999 as of December 31, 2021, to \$12,079,284 as of December 31, 2022, due primarily to an increase in accounts payable.

At the end of fiscal years 2022 and 2021, the Authority showed a positive balance in its unrestricted net position of \$21,238,805 and \$12,886,706, respectively.

Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2022

#### Statement of Activities

	2022	2021	Change
General Revenues			
Membership Admin/Authority	\$ 505,000	\$ 505,000	\$ -
Membership - Water	17,850,300	6,654,800	11,195,500
Grant revenue	14,799,296	14,540,276	259,020
Interest revenue	131,608	33,445	98,163
Other revenue	-	50,000	(50,000)
Total Revenues	33,286,204	21,783,521	11,502,683
Expenses			
Authority/Admin	531,854	445,881	85,973
Reservoir	24,402,251	18,510,245	5,892,006
Total Expenses	24,934,105	18,956,126	5,977,979
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	\$ 8,352,099	\$ 2,827,395	\$ 5,524,704

The Statement of Activities shows how the Authority's net position changed during the periods. In the case of the Authority, net position increased by \$8,352,099 for the year ending December 31, 2022, and increased by \$2,827,395 for the year ending December 31, 2021, respectively.

A closer examination of the sources of changes in net position reveals that:

Total revenue increased by \$11,502,683 from the year ending December 31, 2021 to the year ending December 31, 2022, due primarily to the first billing for Phase 2C of \$17,850,300.

Total expenses increased by \$5,977,979 from the year ending December 31, 2021, to the year ending December 31, 2022, to match the Authority's scope of work in 2022. Authority/Admin expenses comprised 2.13% and 2.35% of total expenses for the years ending December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Reservoir expenses comprised 97.87% and 97.65% of total expenses for the years ending December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

#### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Authority's total budget for the General Fund for the year ended December 31, 2022, showed excess expenditures over revenues of \$0 compared to the actual amount of \$25,830.

	<u>Actual</u>		 Budget	V	ariance
Revenues	\$	506,024	\$ 506,024	\$	-
Operating Expenses		531,854	522,466		9,388
Net Increase	\$	(25,830)	\$ (16,442)	\$	(9,388)

Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2022

#### Conditions Affecting Current Financial Position

The Authority continues to plan and expand project activities to build the large water infrastructure project. Expanding activities results in a continuation of increases to the annual financial budgets.

The California Water Commission's (CWC) Early Funding Agreement (EFA) with the Authority was approved mid-2019 for the maximum amount payable by the State to not exceed \$40,818,884 for activities reasonably related to the completion of environmental documentation and permitting. In 2021, the Authority processed and received State payments of \$11,486,720 towards the not to exceed amount for eligible activities. In February of 2021, the CWC increased the Maximum Conditional Eligibility Determination to consider inflation. This did not impact the EFA amount. In December of 2021, the CWC determined the Sites Reservoir Project to be feasible and remained eligible for continued funding under the Water Storage Investment Program. In May of 2023, the CWC increased the eligible funding an additional \$2.9 million and continued the funding under the Water Storage Investment Program.

A Federal Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) with the Authority Pursuant to the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act was approved in August 2020 for a maximum amount payable by the Federal Government to not exceed \$3,000,000 for activities to advance work on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Project and obtain various permits and regulatory authorizations before beginning project construction for the Sites Reservoir Project. In 2021, the Authority processed and received Federal payment of \$2,341,908 towards the not to exceed amount for eligible activities. In November of 2021, an amendment to this FAA was executed, increasing the not to exceed amount payable by the Federal Government by \$3,554,922 from \$3,000,000 to \$6,554,922. In 2022, the Federal award was exhausted for the activities outlined in the original award agreement. A new Federal award was issued in September of 2022 for an additional \$6.9 million. In May of 2023, the second Federal award was fully paid as work activities continued to progress on the project. A third Federal award is currently being pursued by the Authorities agents, in an effort to continue funding the Project.

The current phase of the project is anticipated to be completed by December 31, 2024, and is funded through a Participants' cash call and additional received EFA and FAA dollars.

#### Future Plans for the Sites Reservoir Project

As an ongoing part of the EFA and FAA funding process, the Authority will continue to prepare and submit invoices for payment on a quarterly basis. As noted above, the Authority is currently pursuing a new FAA for additional WIIN funding. Further, in 2023, the Sites Project Authority submitted an application for a Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Loan with the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Authority will continue to expand its governance and member participation.

The Authority has developed a detailed work plan and financing plan for the remainder of Phase 2 through December 31, 2024.

The remainder of work in Phase 2 will include key activities such as completing the Final EIR/EIS, complete and obtain key environmental permits and initiate secondary permits for construction and operations, secure water right Order and Permit from the State Water Resources Control Board, complete engineering design to 30% level and, as needed, further facility designs to receive permits and approvals required.

Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2022

## Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide the Authority's funding sources, customers, stakeholders, and other interested parties with an overview of the Authority's financial operations and financial condition. Should the reader have questions regarding the information included in this report or wish to request additional financial information, please contact the Authority's Treasurer at P.O. Box 517, Maxwell, California 95955 or view the website of the Authority at www.sitesproject.org.

# SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2022

ASSETS	
Cash and investments	\$ 24,276,372
Grants receivable	9,016,756
Prepaid expenses	24,961
TOTAL ASSETS	33,318,089
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	3,039,725
Participant reimbursement policy	 9,039,559
TOTAL LIABILITIES	12,079,284
NET POSITION	
Unrestricted	21,238,805
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 21,238,805

## SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

## **GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES:**

#### **EXPENSES:**

Authority/Admin	\$ 531,854
Reservoir	24,402,251
Total expenses	24,934,105
GENERAL REVENUES:	
Membership Admin/Authority	505,000
Membership Water	17,850,300
Grant revenue	14,799,296
Interest revenue	131,608
Total general revenues	33,286,204
Change in net position	8,352,099
Net position, beginning of fiscal year	12,886,706
Net position, end of fiscal year	\$ 21,238,805

## SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2022

	General Fund -		Special Revenue -	
		authority	Reservoir	Total
ASSETS	•	<u> </u>		
Cash and investments	\$	508,773	\$ 23,767,599	\$ 24,276,372
Grants receivable		-	9,016,756	9,016,756
Prepaid expenses		20,030	4,931	24,961
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	528,803	\$ 32,789,286	\$ 33,318,089
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$	28,955	\$ 3,010,770	\$ 3,039,725
Participant reimbursement policy			9,039,559	9,039,559
Total liabilities		28,955	12,050,329	12,079,284
FUND BALANCES				
Fund balance:				
Assigned to development of the reservoir		-	20,738,957	20,738,957
Unassigned		499,848		499,848
Total fund balances		499,848	20,738,957	21,238,805
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$	528,803	\$ 32,789,286	\$ 33,318,089

# SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	General Fund - authority	Re	special evenue - eservoir	Total
REVENUES				
Membership Admin/Authority	\$ 505,000	\$	_	\$ 505,000
Membership Water	-	1	7,850,300	17,850,300
Grant revenue	-	1	4,799,296	14,799,296
Interest revenue	 1,024		130,584	 131,608
Total revenues	506,024	3	2,780,180	33,286,204
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
Accounting services	7,934		28,538	36,472
Audit fees	17,692		-	17,692
Administrative support	11,885		47,540	59,425
Insurance	2,445		-	2,445
Office expenses	17,328		647	17,975
Rent expense	40,600		14,000	54,600
Dues and subscriptions	17,808		4,452	22,260
Professional fees	413,659	2	4,061,558	24,475,217
Reimbursements	-		232,894	232,894
Website, computer support	2,503		9,651	12,154
Miscellaneous	 		2,971	 2,971
Total expenditures	 531,854	2	4,402,251	 24,934,105
Net changes in fund balances	(25,830)		8,377,929	8,352,099
Fund balances, beginning of year	 525,678	1	2,361,028	 12,886,706
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 499,848	\$ 2	0,738,957	\$ 21,238,805

Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2022

#### NOTE 1: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

<u>Reporting Entity</u>: Sites Project Authority (the Authority) was established as an independent special agency in August of 2010 under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code, Section 6500.

As of December 31, 2022, 11 public entities, filling 9 Board seats with 2 government agencies serving ex-officio positions and 2 Associate Members, were approved members of the Authority as follows:

Reclamation District 108 Westside Water District Placer County Water Agency/ Colusa County Water District City of Roseville Sacramento County Water Agency/ County of Colusa City of Sacramento County of Glenn California Department of Water Resources Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District TC 4 Districts (Associate Member) Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority Western Canal Water District (Associate U. S. Bureau of Reclamation Member)

The Authority is a public entity special district and, therefore, falls under the reporting guidelines of a special district governmental entity as outlined by the California State Controller's Office. The Authority is governed by a board of directors that consists of one representative of each member.

The Authority was developed with the purpose to effectively study, promote, develop, design, finance, acquire, construct, manage, and operate Sites Reservoir and the related facilities. The purpose of pursuing and developing the Sites Reservoir are to: (a) increase surface water storage and enhance water management flexibility in the Sacramento Valley, (b) provide flood control benefits, (c) improve conditions for fish and wildlife in the Sacramento Valley, (d) improve the operation of the State's water system, and (e) increase opportunities for recreational activities.

<u>Financial Statement Presentation</u>: The *Statement of Net Position* and *Statement of Activities* display information about the primary government (the Authority). These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. These statements report the governmental activities of the Authority, which are normally supported by intergovernmental revenues. The Authority had no business-type activities as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Authority's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and; therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include operating grants. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented instead as general revenues.

Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2022

#### NOTE 1: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Fund financial statements of the Authority are organized into one fund which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. The fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures. The Authority reports two funds, the General Fund, which accounts for all revenues and expenditures necessary to carry out the administrative activities of the Authority, and the Reservoir Fund, a special revenue fund used to account for specific work activities for the development of the Sites Reservoir Project and is funded by contributions from the Project Agreement Members.

<u>Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus</u>: Basis of accounting refers to the point at which revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Authority gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include grants, entitlements, and donations.

Revenues from grants, entitlements, and donations are recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. Charges for services, operating grants, and use of money and property are accrued when their receipt occurs within sixty days after the end of the accounting period so as to be both measurable and available. Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

<u>Cash</u>: The Authority's cash includes demand deposits. The Authority had no investments during the year ending December 31, 2022.

The governing board has not formally adopted any deposit and investment policies that limits the Authority's allowable deposits or investments and addresses the specific type of risk to which the Authority is exposed.

<u>Due from Other Governments</u>: Amounts due from other governments represent amounts due from member agencies that has been earned but not received by the end of the period.

As of December 31, 2022, the Authority has determined that all amounts are collectable and therefore, no doubtful account allowance was deemed necessary as of December 31, 2022.

Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2022

#### NOTE 1: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

<u>Capital Assets</u>: The Authority defines capital assets as property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets with an initial individual cost of \$5,000 and a useful life of three years or more. As of December 31, 2022, the Authority had no capital assets.

<u>Unearned Revenue</u>: This represents amounts received from members that will be applied to future billings.

Revenue: The Authority's revenue is comprised of the following:

General Fund – Authority Revenue

Authority members pay an annual membership fee which is established by the Authority. The membership fee for 2022 was \$55,000 per member.

Special Revenue – Reservoir Fund

Revenue is recognized according to the Project's board-approved operating budget for each phase of the Project. The Project Agreement Members are billed in accordance with their pro-rata share of the budgeted costs for activities undertaken pursuant to the Project Agreement.

To withdraw from this Project Agreement, a Project Agreement Member shall give the Authority and other Project Agreement Members written notice of such withdrawal not less than 30 days prior to the withdrawal date. As of the withdrawal date, all rights of participation in this Project Agreement shall cease for the withdrawing Project Agreement Member. The financial obligation as prescribed in the Bylaws' Section 5.10 in effect on the withdrawal date, shall consist of the withdrawing Member's share of the following costs: (a) payment of its share of all non-contract costs incurred prior to the date of the written notice of withdrawal, and (b) those contract costs associated with funds approved.

#### **Government-Wide Net Position:**

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Authority's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Government-wide net position is reported in three components – net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted. These classifications are defined as follows:

Net investment in capital assets – This component consists of capital assets, including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Restricted – This component consists of constraints placed on net position through external constraints imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, regulations of other governments, or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2022

#### NOTE 1: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Unrestricted – This component consists of all other net position that does not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets", as defined above.

Governmental Fund Balance: In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balances are classified as follows:

Nonspendable – Amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in a nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

*Restricted* – Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of state or federal laws, or externally imposed conditions by grantors or creditors.

*Committed* – Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by formal action of the Authority.

Assigned – Amounts that are designated by the Authority to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The board of directors has the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes.

*Unassigned* – All amounts not included in other spendable classifications.

<u>Estimates</u>: The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

#### **NOTE 2: CASH AND INVESTMENTS**

<u>Demand Deposits</u>: The carrying amount and the bank balance of the Authority's cash as of December 31, 2022, were \$24,276,372 and \$24,319,899, respectively. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insures deposits up to \$250,000. As of December 31, 2022, \$24,069,899 was in excess of the insurance coverage.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to it. The California Government Code and the Authority's investment policy do not contain legal or policy requirements limiting exposure to custodial risk for deposits or investments. The California Government Code requires that a bank secures deposits made by state and local governmental units by pledging securities in an undivided collateral pool held by a depository regulated under state law (unless so waived by the governmental unit). The market value of the pledged securities in the collateral pool must equal at least 110% of the total amount deposited by public agencies. California law also allows financial institutions to secure the Authority's deposits by pledging first trust deed mortgage notes having a value of 150% of the secured public deposits.

Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2022

#### NOTE 2: CASH AND INVESTMENTS – CONTINUED

Every account that the Authority has with its bank is either insured through FDIC (through the Demand Deposit Marketplace program) or through the bank's collateralized pool. Every dollar in the Authority's funds is insured by one of the programs or pools.

#### NOTE 3: PROFESSIONAL FEES

Professional fees for the year ended December 31, 2022, consisted of the following:

	General Fund -	Special	
		Revenue -	Total
Bond Counsel	Authority -	Reservoir \$ 156,243	
	<b>5</b> -	. ,	/ -
Bus/Comm Manager	152.920	289,669	289,669
Communication	152,829	277,508	430,337
Cost Development Model	-	6,860	6,860
E & C Manager	-	325,403	325,403
Engineering & Technical Service	-	2,996,409	2,996,409
EPP Manager	-	392,979	392,979
Executive Director	-	447,471	447,471
Federal Government Affairs Supp	105,290	105,290	210,580
Financial Leadership	-	35,177	35,177
General Legal Counsel	60,734	53,367	114,101
Geotechnical Engineering	-	3,414,546	3,414,546
Legislative/Reg/Strategic	54,000	54,000	108,000
Modeling/Research Services	-	151,900	151,900
Monitoring Services	-	20,000	20,000
Municipal Advisor	-	330,494	330,494
Operations/Simulation Modeling	-	1,143,237	1,143,237
Permitting & Agreements	-	5,016,082	5,016,082
Professional Fees:Legal Services	-	47,344	47,344
Program Ops Manager	-	375,976	375,976
Project Controls	-	2,862,282	2,862,282
Project Integration	-	4,089,205	4,089,205
Project Reservoir Operations Modeling	-	13,780	13,780
Real Estate	-	52,692	52,692
Reservoir Operations	-	455,756	455,756
Reservoir Operations Modeling	-	23,437	23,437
Special Legal	-	658,837	658,837
Strategic Planning	40,806	-	40,806
Water Rights Legal Counsel	<u> </u>	265,614	265,614
•	\$ 413,659	\$ 24,061,558	\$ 24,475,217

Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2022

#### **NOTE 4: RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Authority is exposed to various risks and general liabilities. The Authority participates in a public entity risk pool as a member of Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA-JPIA). Each ACWA-JPIA member agency shares surpluses and deficits proportional to their participation. The Authority pays retrospectively rated annual premiums to ACWA-JPIA for its insurance coverage and has met all obligations since participation began.

#### NOTE 5: PARTICIPANTS REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

According to the Authority's participants reimbursement policy, the participants who withdrew or decreased their participation in the project are entitled to a credit equal to the contribution they made up to the date of withdrawal or reduction. That credit was applied toward future contribution requirements or booked as a liability on the Authority's books to be paid when it is determined that such reimbursements will not have an adverse impact on the financial viability or overall implementation of the Project. The amount due to participants under the reimbursement policy as of December 31, 2022, was \$9,039,559.

#### NOTE 6: COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability. The amount of expenditures, if any, which may be disallowed by the grantor, cannot be determined at this time although the Authority expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

The Authority has outstanding contracts related to EIR/EIS and feasibility study. The remaining commitments on these contracts as of December 31, 2022, were minimal as the contracts can be canceled with a thirty-day notice.

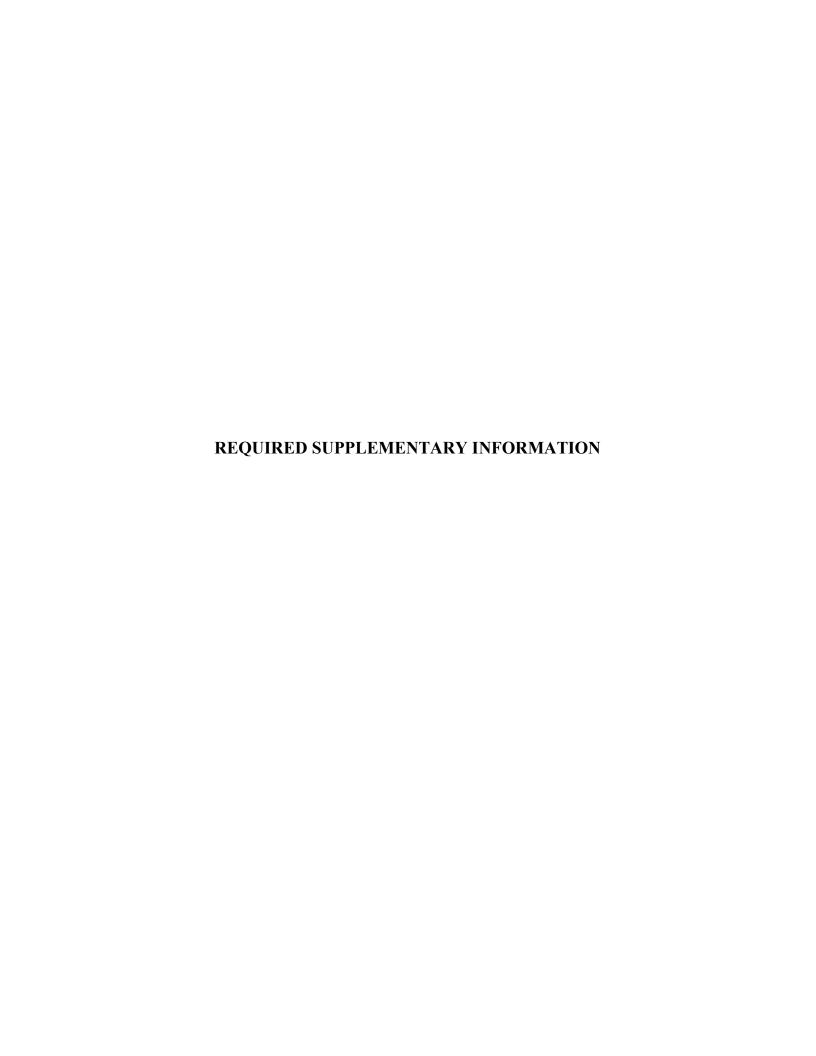
#### NOTE 7: COVID-19

In January 2020, SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus responsible for COVID-19, was detected in the United States of America. As a result of this virus, State and Local Health officials established various stay at home and other measures to reduce the spread. To date, the District has not experienced any significant impacts other than the purchase of personal protective equipment, taking additional sanitization measures, and staggering intermittent service times. While the state of emergency expired on February 28, 2023, the long-term impact in the State of California continues to be uncertain.

Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2022

#### NOTE 8: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through July 14, 2023, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued. Based upon this evaluation, three subsequent events occurred that require recognition in the financial statements. The first event is receiving a \$6,900,000 award payment from the Bureau of Reclamation on May 5, 2023. This was tied to Federal Agreement R22AC00670. The second event is that the Authority, through its agents, has been actively pursuing a third Federal Award for work currently taking place. The application has been submitted, but the award has not occurred as of this date. The final event is the award of an additional \$2.9 million dollars on May 17, 2023, to the existing CWC agreement.



#### SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY GENERAL FUND

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	Budgeted	Amounts		Variance with Final Budget Positive
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)
REVENUES				
Membership Admin/Authority	\$ 505,000	\$ 505,000	\$ 505,000	\$ -
Interest revenue		1,024	1,024	
Total revenues	505,000	506,024	506,024	
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
Accounting services	12,450	7,134	7,934	(800)
Audit fees	-	-	17,692	(17,692)
Administrative support	15,000	11,885	11,885	-
Rent expense	33,600	40,600	40,600	-
Insurance	2,000	2,751	2,445	306
Office expenses	30,000	17,300	17,328	(28)
Dues and subscriptions	74,100	24,655	17,808	6,847
Professional fees	4,098,848	415,390	413,659	1,731
Website, computer support	3,000	2,751	2,503	248
Total expenditures	4,268,998	522,466	531,854	(9,388)
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ (3,763,998)	\$ (16,442)	\$ (25,830)	\$ (9,388)

#### SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY RESERVOIR FUND

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

	Budgeted	Amounts		Variance with Final Budget Positive
	Original	Final	Actual	(Negative)
REVENUES				
Membership Water	\$ 16,762,000	\$ 17,850,300	\$ 17,850,300	\$ -
Grant revenue	26,300,000	14,248,559	14,799,296	550,737
Interest revenue		130,584	130,584	
Total revenues	43,062,000	32,229,443	32,780,180	550,737
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
Accounting services	49,800	28,538	28,538	-
Audit fees	-	-	-	-
Administrative support	59,760	47,540	47,540	-
Office expenses	5,000	647	647	-
Rent expense	14,000	14,000	14,000	-
Dues and subscriptions	3,967	4,452	4,452	-
Professional fees	42,900,000	24,061,558	24,061,558	-
Reimbursements	-	232,894	232,894	-
Website, computer support	10,000	9,486	9,651	(165)
Miscellaneous	5,000	2,971	2,971	
Total expenditures	43,047,527	24,402,086	24,402,251	(165)
Excess of revenues under expenditures	\$ 14,473	\$ 7,827,357	\$ 8,377,929	\$ 550,572

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information December 31, 2022

#### NOTE 1: BUDGETARY BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Budgets are prepared on the cash and expenditures or encumbrances basis. Revenues are budgeted in the year receipt is expected; expenditures are budgeted in the year that the applicable warrant requisitions are expected to be issued. The budget and actual financial statements are reported on the above basis, with no material differences between them.

Annual budget requests are submitted by the Authority's staff to the board of directors for preliminary review and approval. After public hearing, a final budget is approved by the board of directors, with a resolution adopting said budget. Copies of the approved budget are sent to all required agencies.





# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Directors Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the General Fund of Sites Project Authority, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 14, 2023.

#### **Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

To the Board of Directors Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

#### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Fechter & Company

Certified Public Accountants

Lechter + Company Sacramento, California

July 14, 2023



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

To the Board of Directors Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

#### Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

#### **Opinion on Each Major Federal Program**

We have audited Sites Project Authority's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Sites Project Authority's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2022. Sites Project Authority's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Sites Project Authority complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2022.

#### Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of *Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Sites Project Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Sites Project Authority's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

#### **Responsibilities of Management for Compliance**

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Sites Project Authority's federal programs.

To the Board of Directors Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

#### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Sites Project Authority's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, Government Auditing Standards, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Sites Project Authority's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Sites Project Authority's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Sites Project Authority's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Sites Project Authority's internal control over compliance.

Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

#### **Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

To the Board of Directors Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

#### **Report on Internal Control over Compliance**

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Fechter & Company

Certified Public Accountants

Sacramento, California

July 14, 2023

#### Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	A	ALN	F 1'4
Federal Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title	Agreement Number	Number	Expenditures
The U.S. Department of the Interior			
Bureau of Reclamation:			
Sites Reservoir Project Planning	R20AC00105	15.574	\$ 2,116,402
Sites Joint Powers Authority	R22AC00670	15.574	3,515,134
Total U.S. Department of the Interior			5,631,536
Total Expenditures			\$ 5,631,536

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards December 31, 2022

#### **NOTE 1: REPORTING ENTITY**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activity of all federal awards programs of the Authority. The Authority's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the basic financial statements. All federal awards received directly from federal agencies as well as federal awards passed through other government agencies are included in the schedule.

#### NOTE 2: BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

For purposes of this report, certain accounting procedures were followed which help illustrate the authorizations and expenditures of the individual programs. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. All authorizations represent the total allotments or grant awards received. All expenses and capital outlays are reported as expenditures. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the *Uniform Guidance*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

Any Federal funds expended in excess of Federal funds received are recorded as a receivable from the grantor agency and any Federal funds received in excess of Federal funds expended are recorded as a payable to the grantor agency.

#### NOTE 3: RELATIONSHIP TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The amounts reported in the accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards agree, in all material respects, to amounts reported within the Authority's financial statements. Federal award revenues and expenditures are reported principally in the Authority's financial statements as Reservoir Fund.

# NOTE 4: LOANS OUTSTANDING WITH CONTINUING COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT

No program had federally-funded loans with a continuing compliance requirement outstanding at December 31, 2022.

#### **NOTE 5: SUBRECIPIENTS**

The federal programs shown in the accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards had no subrecipients during the year ended December 31, 2022.

#### NOTE 6: INDIRECT COST RATE

This program provides that the Authority shall receive direct administrative costs in accordance with 2 CFR 200.413 instead of indirect costs under 200.414(f). Since only direct administrative costs are allowable under this grant, the Authority is not eligible for the 10-percent de minimus indirect cost rate under the *Uniform Guidance*.

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs December 31, 2022

## <u>SECTION 1 – SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS</u>

## **Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issued:

Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weaknesses identified No

Significant deficiencies identified not

considered to be material weaknesses No

Non-compliance material to financial statements noted No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:

Material weaknesses identified No

Significant deficiencies identified not

considered to be material weaknesses No

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance

for major programs:

Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required

to be reported under the Uniform Guidance No

Identification of major programs:

CFDA Number Name of Federal Program or Cluster

15.574 Sites Reservoir Project Planning

Dollar threshold used to distinguish

Between Type A and Type B programs \$750,000

Auditee qualifies as low-risk auditee under the Uniform Guidance No

## **SECTION 2 - FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS**

No findings reported

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs December 31, 2022

## **SECTION 3 - FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**

No findings reported

## **SECTION 4 – SUMMARY OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS**

No findings reported

# SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2022

# Management Report For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

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Board of Directors of the Sites Project Authority Maxwell, California

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Sites Project Authority for the year ended December 31, 2022, we considered the Authority's internal control structure to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure.

Our consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce, to a relatively low level, the risk that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the basic financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We will be pleased to discuss them in further detail at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to assist you in implementing the recommendations. We thank the Authority's staff for its cooperation on this audit.

Fechter & Company,

Certified Public Accountants

Sacramento, California

July 14, 2023

# Required Communications For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

## The Auditor's Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards

As stated in our engagement letter dated February 23, 2023, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit.

## **Significant Accounting Policies**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Authority are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. We noted no transactions entered into by the Authority during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

## **Accounting Estimates**

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. Our audit did not disclose any sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements.

# Required Communications For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

## **Audit Adjustments**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define an audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial statements that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. An audit adjustment may or may not indicate matters that could have a significant effect on the Authority's financial reporting process (that is, cause future financial statements to be materially misstated). The following audit adjustments, in our judgment, indicate matters that could have a significant effect on the Authority's financial reporting process:

Audit adjustments for the year ended December 31, 2022:

- To adjust beginning balance of equity for prior year audit adjustment of \$5,670,505 for grant revenue that was not recorded by Authority.
- To accrue additional revenue of \$6,221,241 for the Federal Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) 2 with the Bureau of Reclamation.

## **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

## **Management Representations**

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated July 14, 2023.

## **Consultations with Other Independent Auditors**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

## **Issues Discussed Prior to Retention of Independent Auditors**

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Authority's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

## Required Communications For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

## **Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit**

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing our audit.

## **Restriction on Use**

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Directors and management of the Sites Project Authority and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.



July 14, 2023

Fechter & Company Certified Public Accountants 3445 American River Drive, Suite A Sacramento, CA 95864

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Sites Project Authority, which comprise the respective financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund, as of December 31, 2022, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, for the purpose of expressing opinions as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of July 14, 2023, the following representations made to you during your audit.

#### **Financial Statements**

- We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated February 23, 2023, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP and for preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
- 2) The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP and include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government and all component units required by generally accepted accounting principles to be included in the financial reporting entity.
- 3) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- 4) We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- 5) Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- 6) Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- 7) Adjustments or disclosures have been made for all events, including instances of noncompliance, subsequent to the date of the financial statements that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.
- 8) We acknowledge the adjustments included in the financial statements as listed in ATTACHMENT 1. We will record these adjustments to the District's books and records.
- 9) The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

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10) Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Sites Project Authority is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

## Information Provided

- 11) We have provided you with:
  - a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, documentation, and other matters.
  - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
  - Unrestricted access to persons within the Sites Project Authority from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
  - d) Minutes of the meetings of Sites Project Authority or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- 12) All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- 13) We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
- 14) We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the Sites Project Authority and involves—
  - Management,
  - Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
  - Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- 15) We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Sites Project Authority's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- 16) We have no knowledge of instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- 17) We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- 18) We have disclosed to you the identity of the Sites Project Authority's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.

## Government—specific

- 19) There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- 20) We have identified to you any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- 21) We have provided our views on reported findings, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as our planned corrective actions, for the report.
- 22) The Sites Project Authority has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, liabilities, or equity.
- 23) We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits and debt contracts, and legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.
- 24) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances that have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws and regulations that we believe have a material effect on the

- financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, and any other instances that warrant the attention of those charged with governance.
- 25) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances, which have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of noncompliance with provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
- 26) We have identified and disclosed to you all instances that have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of abuse that could be quantitatively or qualitatively material to the financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
- 27) There are no violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws and regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving, and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements, or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance.
- 28) As part of your audit, you assisted with preparation of the financial statements and related notes. We acknowledge our responsibility as it relates to those nonaudit services, including that we assume all management responsibilities; oversee the services by designating Joe Trapasso, program operations manager, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; to evaluate the adequacy and results of the services performed; and accept responsibility for the results of the services. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those financial statements and related notes.
- 29) The Sites Project Authority has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- 30) The Sites Project Authority has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- 31) The financial statements include all component units as well as joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations.
- 32) The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities in accordance with GASB Statement No. 34.
- 33) All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASBS Nos. 34 and 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.
- 34) Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and classifications of fund balance (nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- 35) Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- 36) Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, general revenues, contributions to term or permanent endowments, or contributions to permanent fund principal.
- 37) Deposits and investment securities and derivative instruments are properly classified as to risk and are properly disclosed.
- 38) We have appropriately disclosed the Authority's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.
- 39) We are following our established accounting policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available. That policy determines the fund balance classifications for financial reporting purposes.
- 40) We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.

## 41) With respect to federal award programs:

- a) We are responsible for understanding and complying with and have complied with, the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), including requirements relating to preparation of the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.
- b) We acknowledge our responsibility for preparing and presenting the schedule of expenditures of federal awards (SEFA) and related disclosures in accordance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance, and we believe the SEFA, including its form and content, is fairly presented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance. The methods of measurement or presentation of the SEFA have not changed from those used in the prior period and we have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement or presentation of the SEFA.
- c) We have identified and disclosed to you all of our government programs and related activities subject to the Uniform Guidance compliance audit, and have included in the SEFA, expenditures made during the audit period for all awards provided by federal agencies in the form of federal awards, federal costreimbursement contracts, loans, loan guarantees, property (including donated surplus property), cooperative agreements, interest subsidies, insurance, food commodities, direct appropriations, and other direct assistance.
- d) We are responsible for understanding and complying with, and have complied with, the requirements of federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards related to each of our federal programs and have identified and disclosed to you the requirements of federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that are considered to have a direct and material effect on each major program.
- e) We are responsible for establishing, designing, implementing, and maintaining, and have established, designed, implemented, and maintained, effective internal control over compliance for federal programs that provides reasonable assurance that we are managing our federal awards in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards that could have a material effect on our federal programs. We believe the internal control system is adequate and is functioning as intended.
- f) We have made available to you all federal awards (including amendments, if any) and any other correspondence with federal agencies or pass-through entities relevant to federal programs and related activities.
- g) We have received no requests from a federal agency to audit one or more specific programs as a major program.
- h) We have complied with the direct and material compliance requirements (except for noncompliance disclosed to you), including when applicable, those set forth in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* (including its Addendum), relating to federal awards.
- i) We have disclosed any communications from federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities concerning possible noncompliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including communications received from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditor's report.
- j) We have disclosed to you the findings received and related corrective actions taken for previous audits, attestation engagements, and internal or external monitoring that directly relate to the objectives of the compliance audit, including findings received and corrective actions taken from the end of the period covered by the compliance audit to the date of the auditor's report.
- k) Amounts claimed or used for matching were determined in accordance with relevant guidelines in OMB's Uniform Guidance (2 CFR part 200, subpart E) and OMB Circular A-87, Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments, if applicable.
- I) We have disclosed to you our interpretation of compliance requirements that may have varying interpretations.

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- m) We have made available to you all documentation related to compliance with the direct and material compliance requirements, including information related to federal program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements.
- n) We have disclosed to you the nature of any subsequent events that provide additional evidence about conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period affecting noncompliance during the reporting period.
- o) There are no such known instances of noncompliance with direct and material compliance requirements that occurred subsequent to the period covered by the auditor's report.
- p) No changes have been made in internal control over compliance or other factors that might significantly affect internal control, including any corrective action we have taken regarding significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal control over compliance, subsequent to the period covered by the auditor's report.
- q) Federal program financial reports and claims for advances and reimbursements are supported by the books and records from which the financial statements have been prepared.
- r) The copies of federal program financial reports provided you are true copies of the reports submitted, or electronically transmitted, to the respective federal agency or pass-through entity, as applicable.
- s) We have charged costs to federal awards in accordance with applicable cost principles.
- t) We are responsible for and have ensured the reporting package does not contain protected personally identifiable information.
- u) We are responsible for and have accurately prepared the auditee section of the Data Collection Form as required by the Uniform Guidance.
- v) We are responsible for taking corrective action on each audit finding of the compliance audit and have developed a corrective action plan that meets the requirements of the Uniform Guidance.

Signature: <u>Oos Trapasso</u>	Signature: Jamie Traynham
Title: Program Operations Manager	Title: Treasurer

## ATTACHMENT 1

Client: SITES PROJECT AUTHORITY

Report: Journal Entry Date: 12/31/2022

	Description	Debit Cre	edit	Net Income Effect
AJE01				
To reclassif	y fixed assets less than \$5,000, the entity's FA thresho	ld, to expense		
10-17020	Furniture and Fixtures	0.00	4,719.00	
10-63220	Office Expenses:Misc Office & Operating Exp	4,719.00	0.00	
Total		4,719.00	4,719.00	(4,719.00)
AJE02				
To adjust b	eginning balance in equity to include PY AJE01 not rec	•		
20-30020	Retained Earnings	0.00	5,670,505.00	
20-43000	Prop 1 Funding	4,231,985.00	0.00	
20-43100	Federal WIIN Funding	1,438,520.00	0.00	
Total		5,670,505.00	5,670,505.00	(5,670,505.00)
AJE03				
To reclassif	y Federal WIIN amount incorrectly recorded to Prop 1	(CWC) grant revenue		
	y Federal WIIN amount incorrectly recorded to Prop 1 Federal WIIN Funding	(CWC) grant revenue 0.00	486,788.00	
20-43100		. , ,	486,788.00 0.00	
To reclassif 20-43100 20-43000 <b>Total</b>	Federal WIIN Funding	0.00	•	0.00
20-43100 20-43000	Federal WIIN Funding	0.00 486,788.00	0.00	0.00
20-43100 20-43000 <b>Total</b>	Federal WIIN Funding	0.00 486,788.00	0.00	0.00
20-43100 20-43000 <b>Total</b> <b>AJE04</b> To accrue a	Federal WIIN Funding Prop 1 Funding	0.00 486,788.00	0.00	0.00
20-43100 20-43000 <b>Total</b> <b>AJE04</b> To accrue a 20-43100	Federal WIIN Funding Prop 1 Funding  Idditional revenue per FAA2 invoice to BOR	0.00 486,788.00 <b>486,788.00</b>	0.00 486,788.00	0.00
20-43100 20-43000 <b>Total</b> <b>AJE04</b>	Federal WIIN Funding Prop 1 Funding  Indditional revenue per FAA2 invoice to BOR Federal WIIN Funding	0.00 486,788.00 486,788.00	0.00 486,788.00 6,221,241.00	0.00 6,221,241.00