

## Sites Reservoir Project Monthly Status Report (February)

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### Monthly Status Summary:

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

### Engineering:

- Signed Non-Disclosure Agreement with Western Area Power Administration to facilitate obtaining non-public information, which may include Critical Energy Infrastructure Information, to validate design assumptions and continue coordination.
- Ongoing CAISO and PG&E coordination.
- Continued Division of Safety of Dams coordination. Discussions involve permitting timing and scope of coverage in addition to the technical aspects of geotechnical analysis.
- Continued preliminary engineering design and analysis: dams, I/O, roads, conveyance, and system hydraulics.
- Completed coordination and execution of geotechnical investigation Work Package 3 field and office activities.
- Hosted informational construction contractor virtual townhall on February 13<sup>th</sup> which was attended by over 100 people. Materials are posted on the Sites Project website.

### Coordination with Reclamation:

- Meetings with Reclamation and DWR individually to discuss technical aspects of coordinating operations. The joint discussions around the Operations Coordination Agreement were activated again as Reclamation has determined that the agreement can be finalized without a Basis of Negotiation as long as no commitment of resources are made by Reclamation. The parties are forming a drafting committee to review comments and prepare final draft for legal review.
- The State Water Contractors are providing comments on the Operations Coordination Agreement through DWR.
- Technical discussions with Reclamation involving the development of the Partnership Agreement (which is the Federal equivalent to the B&O) continue.
- Ongoing coordination with Reclamation on schedule and timing for signature of the ROD.

### Environmental Planning and Permitting:

- Ongoing CEQA litigation support, as needed.
- Updates to County Approvals Matrix to address input received on land use entitlements

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and permit requirements.

- Continued to perform seasonal surveys required by the Project's Aquatic Study Plan.
- Continued development of the draft Reservoir Management Plan and permitting approach, strategy, and timeline for 2024/2025 activities.
- Continued meetings with CDFW staff on responding to additional information requests for the Project's Operations ITP application. Provided substantial information to CDFW to address their requests.
- Continued coordination with CDFW on the Revised Construction ITP and Master Streambed Alteration Agreement.
- Continued discussions with several parties protesting the Project's water right application and continued preparation for the administrative hearing.
- Submitted Clean Water Act 404 and 401 permits.
- Continued coordination with design and engineering team on Project Delivery planning.

### **Operations:**

- Continued effort to transition Sites into the CalSim 3 model platform.

### **Partner Engagement, Public Outreach & Real Estate:**

- Staffed a display booth in partnership with Family Water Alliance at the 2024 Colusa Farm Show.
- Planning for April 9, 2024, Sacramento Legislative Day and Washington DC Legislative trip for mid-May.
- Continued to develop of the 2023 Annual Report.
- Planning for a Virtual Town Hall in early 2024 and 2024 Local Community Working Group meetings.
- Planning for landowner meeting in June 2024
- Continued ongoing coordination with landowners who are part of the Early Acquisition Program.
- Ongoing coordination with landowners to discuss TROE for geotechnical, biological, environmental, and cultural field activities and other real estate actions.

### **Program Management & Administration:**

- Provided update draft of the Benefits & Obligations Contract with Participants and Joint Powers Agreement and Bylaws amendments – Participant comments requested by March 22, 2024.