

Sites Reservoir Project Monthly Status Report (November)

Monthly Status Summary:

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

Engineering:

- Continued development of engineering Opinion of Probable Construction Cost Estimate.
- Preparation of documents and coordination with the California Independent System Operator (CAISO).
- Supported Early Acquisition Program activities.
- Ongoing coordination and support of community benefit assessments.

Coordination with Reclamation:

- Meetings with Reclamation and DWR to discuss technical aspects of coordinating operations continue.
- The State Water Contractors are providing comments on the Operations Coordination Agreement through DWR.
- Technical discussions with Reclamation involving the technical aspects of the Partnership Agreement (which is the Federal equivalent to the B&O) continue.
- Ongoing coordination with Reclamation on schedule and timing for signing the ROD.

Environmental Planning and Permitting:

- Continued efforts on testimony, supporting documentation, and preparation for cross-examination for the ITP and rebuttal portions of the water right hearing.
- Continued meetings with Reclamation & USFWS on the Project's Construction Biological Opinion.
- Continued meetings with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency to resolve comments on the Section 404 permit.
- Continued coordination with CDFW on the Project's Master Streambed Alteration Agreement.
- Continued coordination with design and engineering team on Project Delivery planning.

Monthly Status Report Continued

Operations:

- Continued effort to transition Sites into the CalSim 3 model platform.
- Continued effort to develop Sites Operations Plan Version 2.1.

Partner Engagement, Public Outreach & Real Estate:

- Facilitated a coordination meeting with the Maxwell Fire Protection District's Board of Directors regarding potential level of service concerns.
- Facilitated coordination meetings with the Colusa County Community Development Director and their consultant on the development of the Maxwell Community Plan.
- Facilitated project presentation and site tours for the City of Pasadena and the City of Compton as part of the Metropolitan Water District's State Water Project Tour program.
- Planning for December Local Community Working Group.
- Continued ongoing coordination with landowners who are part of the Early Acquisition Program.
- Continued coordination with landowners to discuss Temporary Right Of Entry for geotechnical, biological, environmental and cultural field activities and other real estate actions.

Program Management & Administration:

- Preparation of response to comments received on latest draft of Benefits & Obligations Contract and coordination with selected Participants on comment clarification.
- Continued coordination with the Environmental Protection Agency on Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Master Agreement Loan document development.
- Submitted two payments to CAISO totaling \$179k and agreed to establish a \$207k escrow account to meet CAISO Cluster 15 Resubmission financial obligations. The total financial commitment of \$386k is \$1k more than the November 2024 Board authorized amount of \$385k. A refund of \$47k from CAISO to the Authority is still expected in early 2025.