

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

DIVISION OF SAFETY OF DAMS
2720 GATEWAY OAKS DRIVE, SUITE 300
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-3500



February 19, 2026

Mr. JP Robinette, Engineering and Construction Manager
Sites Project Authority
Post Office Box 517
Maxwell, California 95955

Golden Gate Dam and Sites Reservoir Dam, No. 2051
Colusa County

Dear Mr. Robinette:

This is in reply to the Sites Project Authority's (Authority) letter dated October 7, 2024, submitting the 30-percent design package for the construction of Golden Gate Dam and Sites Reservoir Dam to the Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) for review. The submittal is associated with the construction application filed with DSOD on October 7, 2024, for the construction of the Sites Reservoir complex. Specifically, the 30-percent design consists of conceptual plans and criteria for Golden Gate Dam, Sites Dam, seven saddle dams, three freeboard dikes, a spillway, and multiple inlet/outlet structures.

DSOD has completed an independent review of the 30-percent design package and finds the proposed design concept and criteria acceptable with respect to dam safety. DSOD notes that the 30-percent design is based on limited geotechnical information, and completion of the planned comprehensive exploration program will be critical to ensuring dam safety as the design progresses. Additionally, on July 15, 2025, DSOD provided comments on the design package to the Authority's consultant, Mr. Henry Luu of HDR Engineering, Inc., which must be addressed as the design progresses towards DSOD's final approval. These comments do not impact DSOD's acceptance of the 30-percent design.

DSOD appreciates the Authority's efforts to keep DSOD apprised of the project's progress and schedule and encourages continued coordination as the project progresses.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Project Engineer Mikhail Ermakovich at (916) 606-4942 or me at (916) 565-7800.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Erik J. Malvick'.

Erik J. Malvick, Ph.D., P.E., G.E.
Division Manager
Division of Safety of Dams