



metrochamber

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

August 2, 2017

Jim Watson, General Manager
Sites Project Authority
P.O. Box 517
Maxwell, CA 95955

Dear Jim,

The Sacramento Metro Chamber believes that the Sites Project is a cost-effective solution to California's long-term water needs and an important step forward for California's water future. We are pleased to offer our support.

The Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber is the California Capital Region's leading proponent of regional cooperation and advocacy to secure the public policy and infrastructure investments necessary for business growth, economic development, and quality of life. Our members account for 200,000 employees in El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties.

As a fast-growing region of 2.4 million people – already larger than 15 states – California's Capital Region is critical to our state and national economy. We are known for our unique farming economy that contributes to California's role as the nation's largest agricultural producer. In 2015, California provided over a third of our country's vegetables and two-thirds of our country's fruits and nuts valued at over \$20 billion.

Additional water storage above the Delta is critical to continue our significant role in the nation's agricultural economy, maintain environmental standards, and increase state-wide water supply reliability. Current infrastructure and facilities are unable to capture much-needed water in wet years to hedge against our cyclical droughts that devastate agriculture. The Sites Project is an innovative solution to help capture, store and move water where it needs to be and when it is needed most for the benefit of the entire state.

With the capacity to hold 162 billion of gallons of water, and the ability to add 500,000 acre-feet of water annually to the state's water system, California needs Sites Reservoir. The additional water source will not only protect the long-term viability of our agricultural community, it will also bring additional water supply reliability to help create and protect thousands of regional and statewide jobs.

For over 120 years, the Sacramento Metro Chamber has been a leader in advocating for and supporting our regional agricultural and business community. We take pride in the critical role that we play in helping to craft an economic blueprint for the region and state. On behalf of the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, we are pleased to offer our support for the Sites Project.

Sincerely,

Robert Dugan, Senior Vice President
Public Policy and Economic Development
Sacramento Metro Chamber
Advocate | Support | Grow
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