# Michael L. Peterson, P.E.

## **Sacramento County Water Agency**

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### **Summary**

Mr. Peterson has been employed with Sacramento County for approximately twenty-nine years, having served the County in various engineering and management roles in transportation, flood control, and water supply. He was appointed to his current position as the Director of the Sacramento County Department of Water Resources in May 2011. Prior to this he served as a Principal Civil Engineer managing the County's Drainage Engineering Division for eleven years. As Director of Water Resources Mr. Peterson also serves as the Agency Engineer for the Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) which includes responsibility for the administration, financing, planning and operations of the SCWA Water Supply Enterprise.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Peterson has gained a unique insight on water supply reliability, surface water rights, CVP supplies, groundwater supplies and the socio-economic implications of decisions surrounding these issues. Mr. Peterson's tenure as SCWA Agency Engineer began during one of the most challenging periods in the Water Agency's history. While the state was slowly recovering from the Great Recession, followed then by the most significant period of drought in the state's recorded history, Mr. Peterson successfully led SCWA through these challenges. With a dual focus on maintaining economic stability and ensuring sustainable management of the Agency's water supplies, Mr. Peterson developed a deep understanding of the interconnection between water supply reliability, diversification of supply sources, economic stability and the overarching need to ensure that decisions regarding water supply are made with the involvement of, and broadest benefit to, all stakeholders.

## **Experience**

May 2011 to Present

Sacramento County Department of Water Resources

Sacramento, CA

#### **Director**

- Oversight and responsibility for Administration, Finance, Water Supply, Drainage, Engineering and Operations functions of the department including management of 250 employees and a \$150 million budget.
- Management of the County Stormwater Utility providing drainage/flood control service to approximately 260,000 customers.
- Management of the SCWA Water Supply Enterprise providing water supply to approximately 52,000 customers.
- Provide water policy direction to County Board of Supervisors and SCWA Board of Directors.
- Represent County and SCWA in regional, state and federal water policy and regulatory processes.

September 2000 to May 2011

Sacramento County Department of Water Resources

Sacramento, CA

## **Principal Civil Engineer**

- Oversight and responsibility for Drainage Development, Capital Drainage Design, Drainage Operations and Maintenance and Stormwater Quality programs - 47 staff, combined \$35 million annual budget.
- Develop and execute department policies regarding drainage programs, interpret regulations and rulings from outside agencies, interface with city, state and federal agencies to secure agreements and collaboration on common issues, and represent the Department regarding controversial or high profile issues before the Board, the public and agency forums.
- Participant in Delta Counties Coalition activities including legislation review, commenting on Delta Plan and Bay Delta Conservation Plan documents and developing County strategy and positions on Delta activities.

March 1998 to September 2000

Sacramento County Department of Water Resources

Sacramento, CA

#### **Senior Civil Engineer**

- Managed Drainage Operations and Maintenance Section 15 staff, \$15 million annual budget.
- Drainage liaison to newly incorporated City of Elk Grove, securing long term drainage services agreement. Successfully secured long-term extension of drainage services contract with City of Citrus Heights.
- Directed field response during flood events and served as a primary on-air media contact for interviews during floods.
- Routinely presented to the Board of Supervisors and worked directly with individual Board members to address constituent concerns, collaborate on local and regional drainage issues, and to report on project or program status.

### **Education**

Fall 1984 to Spring 1989

California State University at Sacramento

Sacramento, CA

# **Bachelor of Science, Civil Engineering**

Professional Engineering Registration, June 1992