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April 26, 2013
File No. WF 264729

Phil Crader, Environmental Program Manager
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

SUBJECT: Request to Amend State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) 2013 Petition for Change Involving a Proposed 20,000 acre foot (ac-ft) Water Transfer from Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) to Westlands Water District (WWD) under PCWA's Water Right Permit Nos. 13856 & 13858

Dear Mr. Crader,

On April 22, 2013, PCWA submitted two Petitions for Change Involving Water Transfers to the Division to facilitate a 20,000 ac-ft water transfer (Transfer Water) to WWD pursuant to Water Code §1725-1732. As specified in the Petitions, this transfer would involve surplus water currently stored in PCWA's Middle Fork Project (MFP) under SWRCB issued water right permit nos. 13856 & 13858.

In addition to SWRCB approval of the Petitions, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) must also execute a Warren Act Agreement with WWD authorizing the storage of Transfer Water in Folsom Reservoir, a USBR facility. In order for the USBR to issue this Warren Act Agreement they must make a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) pursuant to National Environmental Protection Act to temporarily store the Transfer Water in Folsom Reservoir.

The USBR has requested that PCWA modify its operational plan for release of the 20,000 ac-ft of Transfer Water into Folsom Reservoir. The requested modification proposed by USBR would require PCWA to release not less than 10,000 ac-ft in May and the balance of the 20,000 ac-ft in June, rather than scheduling the releases over July, August, and September of 2013 as originally proposed, to provide enhanced environmental benefits and flexibility in USBR operations.

PCWA is agreeable to this "early May/June release" of Transfer Water into Folsom Reservoir once the USBR has executed the Warren Act Agreement. With this modification to PCWA's operations plan, a significant portion of the Transfer Water intended for delivery to WWD will have been released from PCWA's MFP and stored in Folsom Reservoir prior to approval of the transfer by the SWRCB.

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DIV OF WATER RIGHTS SACRAMENTO

As specified in SWRCB Order dated June 25, 1975, Folsom Reservoir is a Point of Diversion and Point of Re-diversion established under PCWA's water right permit nos. 13856 & 13858. As such, PCWA has the operational flexibility to make the "early May/June release" of Transfer Water from Ralston Afterbay to storage into Folsom Reservoir as requested by the USBR.

It is understood by all parties involved, that Transfer Water will not be scheduled for release from Folsom Reservoir, and subsequently delivered to WWD, until the SWRCB has approved the Petition for PCWA's water right permit nos. 13856 & 13858 authorizing the transfer.

Based on the foregoing, PCWA is requesting that the SWRCB amend the description of the proposed transfer as currently described in the Petition submitted on April 22, 2013 to reflect the "early May/June release" of Transfer Water into Folsom Reservoir. The "early May/June release" of Transfer Water from Ralston Afterbay would occur between May 1 and June 30, 2013; not less than 10,000 ac-ft would be transferred between May 1 and May 31, 2013 while the remainder of the Transfer Water would be released to Folsom Reservoir between June 1 and June 30, 2013.

This modification to PCWA's operations plan to meet the request of USBR does not change the impact analysis as presented in the Petition submitted on April 22, 2013, and, as such, would not injure any downstream legal user of water nor would it unreasonably affect fish, wildlife, or any other instream beneficial uses.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at (530) 308-4507.

Sincerely,



Andrew Fecko
Director of Resource Development

c: Einar Maisch, Director of Strategic Affairs, PCWA
Jan Goldsmith, General Counsel, KMT&G
Jose Gutierrez, Deputy General Manager - Resources, Westlands Water District
Ron Milligan, Operations Manager, USBR