Subject: WaterFix Change Petition Hearing - Email Response to ARWA

On February 16, 2017, the American River Water Agencies (consisting of Sacramento Suburban Water District, Sacramento County Water Agency, Placer County Water Agency, and the Cities of Sacramento, Roseville, and Folsom) (ARWA) requested confirmation from the WaterFix hearing team that presentation of proposed permit terms, and all of the necessary supporting hydrological and biological technical information, could be presented in Part 2 of the WaterFix change petition hearing. ARWA’s proposed terms and conditions concern Folsom Reservoir operations and flows in the lower American River. These terms and conditions are intended to address the potential impacts of the WaterFix Project on water supplies, fish, wildlife, recreation, and aesthetic values. ARWA cite the close relationship between water supply and environmental concerns and the efficiency and cohesion that would be achieved through presentation of all proposed permit terms and supporting evidence in Part 2 of the hearing. ARWA’s proposal to present an integrated package of hydrologic and biological testimony is supported by the Sacramento Water Forum. In the event that ARWA’s proposal is not consistent with the bifurcation of the hearing, ARWA stated they would be prepared to split their presentation between Part 1 and Part 2.

The hearing team welcomes suggestions to conduct the WaterFix hearing as efficiently as possible. However, presentation of evidence regarding Part 1 hearing issues during Part 2 would be inconsistent with the hearing officers’ prior rulings and unfair to parties who have separated their cases-in-chief to address the separate Part 1 and Part 2 issues. Therefore, ARWA should split their presentation of evidence in support of their proposed permit terms and conditions into Part 1 and 2 issues and present their evidence during the appropriate part of the WaterFix hearing. ARWA should submit its Part 1 related information as part of its rebuttal testimony and exhibits package by 12:00 noon, March 23, 2017 as instructed in the hearing officers’ February 21, 2017 ruling letter.
CA WaterFix Hearing Team

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