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SAN LUIS UNIT

CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT
CALIFORNIA

A Report on the feasibility of Water Supply Development



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

General Description

The Panoche Water District was organized under the laws of California in November 1950. The district is situated adjacent to the San Luis Water District and most of its lands are in the northwestern part of Fresno County. The center of the district is about 55 miles west and slightly north of Fresno. The gross area of the district is 40,070 acres of which about 36,210 acres are irrigable. This district also has been receiving water on a temporary basis and is negotiating for long-term service. In this case full service initially is to be from the Delta-Mendota Canal, but the point of delivery may be changed to San Luis Canal at a later date if that seems advantageous.

The Westlands Water District was formed in August 1952 and is the largest of the three districts within the service area of the San Luis Unit. The district comprises 399,000 acres of land. Its boundaries extend about 60 miles from Panoche Water District to the Tulare Lake basin. On the west the district would be bounded by the San Luis Canal and on the east by the trough of the San Joaquin Valley. It overlies the existing but inactive Mendota Irrigation District. Such lands as are now irrigated within the district are supplied water from deep wells. This district cannot receive water from Central Valley Project because of lack of conveyance facilities until an addition such as San Luis Unit is completed. Upon authorization of such addition, however, negotiations for a major share of the water can be started immediately with Westlands Water District.