March 1, 2019

Via Email and U.S. Mail

Wade Crowfoot, Secretary
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: secretary@resources.ca.gov

Re: Voluntary Settlement Agreements - Stanislaus

Dear Mr. Crowfoot:

This office represents Oakdale Irrigation District and South San Joaquin Irrigation District. When the Voluntary Settlement process started six (6) years ago, the process solely focused on the Stanislaus River. After countless meetings, briefings, model runs and failed SEP process, the Stanislaus River discussion came to an abrupt halt two (2) years ago. After spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on trying to reach a negotiated agreement, the Districts were back at square one.

In the fall of 2018, there was a renewed interest by the State in obtaining an agreement on the Stanislaus River. Both Districts participated in the negotiations, but were unable to come to an agreement with the State. Since December 12, 2018, the Districts have heard of the State’s intent to obtain other agreements. To date, the Districts have not been contacted by the State.

The Districts are willing to meet and negotiate with the State. The Districts submit the attached proposal and analysis for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

Tim O’Laughlin

TO/llw

cc: State Water Resources Control Board Board Members
    Brenda Burman, USBR
    Ernest Conant, USBR