July 13, 2005

Donna E. Tegelman
Regional Resources Manager
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

Dear Ms. Tegelman:

DELTA MENDOTA CANAL RECIRCULATION STUDY

This letter responds to your letter to Celeste Cantú dated June 13, 2005, regarding the Delta-Mendota Canal (DMC) recirculation study required by State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Decision 1641 (D-1641). Ms. Cantú asked that I respond to you regarding this matter.

Your letter responds to Ms. Cantú’s March 23, 2005 letter requesting that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) submit a revised Plan of Action (POA) to complete the recirculation analyses required by D-1641. In your letter, you provide information about issues affecting completion of the studies. You state that USBR expects to receive funding in fiscal year 2006 to complete a detailed feasibility study to address the requirements of D-1641 and other issues. You further state that USBR is in the process of developing a Plan of Study (POS) for that work.

While we understand that USBR is developing a POS, it is not clear what the POS involves and when it will be completed. As such, USBR is still required to submit a revised POA to Ms. Cantú within 30 days from the date of this letter generally describing the actions that will be taken to satisfy the requirements of D-1641 and the timeline for completion of those actions. The POA should include major milestones, but need not include the more detailed information concerning specific studies that we assume will be included in the POS. The POA should indicate when the POS will be completed and should reflect the time needed to complete the new CALSIM model and to secure funding, in addition to any other factors that may delay completion of the studies.
If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Diane Riddle, the Environmental Scientist assigned to this matter, at (916) 341-5297.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY JWK for

Victoria A. Whitney
Division Chief

cc: Sharon McHale
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Division of Planning, MP-700
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, CA 95825

bcc: Celeste Cantú, Vicky Whitney, Barbara Leidigh, Gita Kapahi

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