



April 8, 2015

**Via Email Only**

**Email: [THoward@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:THoward@waterboards.ca.gov)**

Tom Howard, Executive Officer  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: *New Melones Operations***

Dear Mr. Howard:

The Districts understand that yesterday the State Water Board members had questions regarding operations at New Melones Reservoir. Enclosed is a copy of the letter the Districts sent to Mr. Murillo on Monday. The Districts have not yet received a response to this letter. The Districts have a conference call with Mr. Murillo and Reclamation today at 10:00 a.m.

The Districts have been working closely with Reclamation, particularly CVP Operations, Ron Milligan, to provide information to Reclamation to respond to the SWB's request for additional information. The Districts have provided Reclamation with updated forecast and operation runs for the Stanislaus and San Joaquin River at Vernalis, water temperature analyses under four (4) separate scenarios, and an analysis of the operation/interface of Old Melones Dam and New Melones Dam. Since it is Reclamation's TUCP and the request for additional information was sent to Reclamation, the response will be coming from Reclamation. My understanding is Reclamation will have a response to the information request to you today.

Reclamation has just sent a request to the Districts asking the Districts to conserve additional water this year (see attached). The Districts and Reclamation are committed to beginning those discussions with Reclamation as soon as we get the information request to your office, and the Order on the TUCP is resolved.

As you can see by the letter to Mr. Murillo, the only unknown in the current equation is what terms and conditions, if any, the SWB will request from Reclamation in granting the TUCP. The Districts believe that the proposed TUCP, adopted without modification, will provide a plan of operation until April 11, 2016. This will be spelled out in Reclamation's response.

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It is my understanding Mr. Milligan will be requesting a meeting with you as soon as possible to go over the response and request an Order for the New Melones portion of the TUCP.

If you have any questions, please call me.

Very truly yours,

**O'LAUGHLIN & PARIS LLP**



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TIM O'LAUGHLIN

TO/llw  
Attachments

cc: David Murillo  
Drew Lessard  
Ron Milligan  
Jeff Shields  
Steve Knell