October 31, 2012

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Sue Fry
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
Bay-Delta Office, Area Manager
801 I. Street, Suite 140
Sacramento, California 95814
RemandSEP@usbr.gov

Re: Stanislaus River Plaintiffs – Alternatives for Consideration

Dear Ms. Fry:

These comments are submitted on behalf of Oakdale Irrigation District, South San Joaquin Irrigation District and Stockton East Water District (collectively Districts). At the October 19, 2012 meeting, Reclamation identified three "Alternative" categories: fundamental operational changes, habitat restoration and other measures to reduce stressors for which Reclamation is seeking comments.

As you know, the Districts submitted detailed comments on September 21, 2012 to the 2011 Project Description for operations of the Eastside Division of the CVP (New Melones Reservoir). We specifically request that the operations plan contained in the September 21 submittal be used as the plan for operations at New Melones Reservoir. If Reclamation does not elect to implement this operations plan and instead proceeds with the operations plan described in the 2011 Project Description, we hereby request that the operations plan described in the September 21 submittal be specifically included as an Alternative and fully analyzed in the environmental document.

In addition, the San Joaquin River Group Authority has submitted extensive materials in the State Water Board Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan – Phase 1 – San Joaquin River Flow and Salinity Objectives process that address issues related to habitat restoration and other stressors. For your convenience we have included a reference list to those existing materials that should be included in the environmental analysis as Alternatives to the 2011 Project Description.

We thank you for this opportunity to provide comments and look forward to having this information included in future environmental analysis. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact either of us.

Very truly yours,

William C. Paris III
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