



Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie

Background

The Intertie is a shared federal-state water system improvement project west of Tracy, California, in Alameda County. The Intertie connects the federal Delta-Mendota Canal (DMC) and the California Aqueduct and pumping station via two 108-inch-diameter pipes. The pumping station has a capacity of 467 cubic feet per second (cfs) up hill and 900 cfs gravity flow down to the DMC.

The Intertie is downstream from C.W. "Bill" Jones and Harvey O. Banks pumping plants at DMC Mile 7.2 and California Aqueduct Mile 9.



Jones Pumping Plant and the DMC are the primary federal water delivery facilities that provide water to Central Valley Project (CVP) contractors south of the Bay-Delta. The Intertie provides redundancy in the water distribution system, allows for maintenance and repair activities that are less disruptive to water deliveries, and provides the flexibility to respond to CVP and State Water Project (SWP) emergencies. The contract was awarded in July 2010 and construction was completed in April 2012.

Operations

The Intertie went into operation in July 2012. It increases operational flexibility for the combined CVP/SWP project operations, allowing for additional water into San Luis Reservoir (federal share) to support South-of-Delta allocations. The CVP/SWP continue to work together to determine the most beneficial means of utilizing the Intertie.

The Intertie is included in the Endangered Species Act consultation for CVP and SWP Operations and the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service's Biological Opinions and complies with the existing pumping restriction guidelines that govern operations at Banks and Jones pumping plants.



Project Benefits

Operation of the Intertie improves reliability of CVP water deliveries to south of Delta contractors. It will fill the CVP San Luis Reservoir earlier in the water year and provide flexibility during CVP or SWP maintenance activities or emergencies.

Costs/Funding

The Intertie cost \$29 million which includes planning, design, permitting, mitigation, and construction management in addition to the pumping plant and transmission line construction cost.

The Intertie was constructed using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and other federally appropriated funds, as well as water user contributed funds. Federal costs are being recovered from benefitting water contractors according to Reclamation ratesetting policy.

