NORTH SAN JOAQUIN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
SOUTH SYSTEM BRANCH AUTOMATION PROJECT

Lodi, California

Submitted July 31, 2018

Responding to Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-DO-18-F009
WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2018

Applicant:

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South System Branch Automation Project

Grant Application

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   A. Executive Summary

July 30, 2018 - NORTH SAN JOAQUIN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
LODI, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

The South System Branch Automation Project (Project) involves final design and construction of a facility to enable North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD) to better control and measure water deliveries to the two main branches of its South Distribution System. The Project will add two remotely monitored and controlled valves, water measurement meters, and telemetry at a junction in the existing conveyance pipeline. The new remote telemetry unit (RTU)-equipped meters and automated valves will work in conjunction with the master control system and flow meter proposed under the South System Master Control Project (NSJWCD’s 2nd Small Scale Grant Application) to match diversion rates to real-time system demands using the Variable Frequency Drive at the pump station. These improvements will reduce operational losses and increase operational efficiency, making it more economical for the district to deliver surface water. The Project will take 9 months to complete and is not located on a Federal facility.

B. Background Data

NSJWCD is a special district organized to address groundwater overdraft by delivering surface water to irrigated farmland in-lieu of groundwater pumped from private wells. NSJWCD has a surface water right to divert 20,000 acre-feet per year from the Mokelumne River known as Permit 10477. Because Permit 10477 is “junior” to other appropriative water rights on the Mokelumne River, water is not available under this water right in all year types (approximately 50%).

NSJWCD has five approved points of diversion and related conveyance systems for its water right. Four points of diversion are used to deliver water to agricultural lands for irrigation and groundwater recharge, and the fifth point is used to deliver water to the City of Lodi for municipal purposes. Of the four points of diversion that are used to deliver water for irrigation and recharge, the largest is the South System, relevant here.

The South System consists of a pump station with a state-of-the-art fish screen, located on the south bank of the Mokelumne River 5-miles east of Lodi, and a concrete pipeline and open-ditch system that convey water south. Landowners receive water from 103 existing turnouts located on the pipeline segment or through a number of diversion structures located in the open channel portion of the system. These lands are currently developed in vineyards and orchards. Winegrapes are the predominant crop (75% of acreage), followed by cherries, walnuts and almonds. Almost all of this acreage is irrigated with drip irrigation (vineyards and tree crops) or micro-sprinkler (cherries and nuts). There are only a few hundred acres that are still flood irrigated.

NSJWCD has previously received funding from Reclamation to assist in the construction of two of its other diversion facilities. In 2006, NSJWCD received a Cal-Fed Grant to install a new pump station for a pilot groundwater recharge project (Project # R10AC20574). In
2011, the district received a WaterSMART Grant for its Tracy Lake Groundwater Recharge Project (Project # R11AP20096). In 2017, NSJWCD was awarded a $1 million grant under Funding Opportunity Announcement No. BOR-MP-17-F002 (along with a $3 million state grant) in order to reconstruct the South System Pipeline and install new grower-turnouts. However, a landowner ballot-proceeding required to impose assessments to pay for the approximately $15 million in cost-share funding resulted in a “no” vote, meaning that the district was unable to move forward under the 2017 grant agreement with Reclamation.

C. Project Location

NSJWCD’s service area includes 150,000-acres located in northeastern San Joaquin County. (See Figure 1.) The South System is located within NSJWCD’s service area. The South System begins at the pump station which is approximately 5 miles east of the City of Lodi. (See Figure 2.) The latitude and longitude of the existing T-Intersection in the pipeline where the Project is located is 38° 8'48.04"N, 121° 10'41.95"W.

D. Technical Project Description

**Problem and Needs:** NSJWCD’s South System was constructed in the 1960s and first began delivering water from the Mokelumne River to landowners for irrigation in 1966. Diversions into the South System peaked in the 1980’s at approximately 5,775 AF per year. However, diversions began dwindling after the drought of 1988-92 because: (1) a majority of growers switched to drip irrigation systems that rely on pressurized pumped groundwater; and (2) system inefficiencies related to the old pump station and pipeline made the water expensive – almost $100 an acre-foot to pump and deliver. Today, agricultural operations along the pipeline depend almost exclusively on groundwater, which has led to further decline of groundwater elevations in the underlying Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Basin (ESJ Basin). This project, along with related improvements to the South System, will promote the use of surface water for irrigation in-lieu of groundwater.

The South System Pipeline begins at the pump station on the Mokelumne River and follows Tretheway Road South until it reaches a T-intersection at Brandt Road. A valve at the T-intersection of the main branch is used to direct water into the west branch or the east branch of the South System. (See Figure 2.) The proposed project involves installation of two RTU-equipped automated valves and flow meters in the main branch to control the amount of flow directed to each branch of the distribution system. Another proposed project by the District involves installation of a master control system, and related software, capable of remote system operation and an RTU-equipped flowmeter at the end of the pipeline that will work in coordination with this Project to address unmonitored spills at points where water was historically lost during system operations (NSJWCD's 2nd FY-2018 Small-Scale Grant Application). Without these modern water controls the District would continue to have inability to match water supply to demands, which causes high operational water losses.
Figure 1. NSJWCD District Boundaries and Points of Diversion.

Figure 2. Diagram of South System Facilities.
**How the Project Addresses Problems and Needs:** The Project includes: (1) final design and installation of 2 flow meters and 2 valves that will each be connected to an RTU to allow the valves to be automatically operated from the operations control center (to be installed during the South System Master Control Project) based on monitoring data provided by flow meters; (2) an RTU-equipped water level sensor for upstream water level; (3) installation of access structures for construction and maintenance; and (4) a solar panel for the power supply. When the flow meters and level sensor at the branch indicate that more water is spilling into a particular branch than is needed to meet demand, the operations control center will transmit a signal to the pump station to automatically reduce the amount of water being pumped. With these improvements, water that was previously lost to spills at the beginning or end of the system will instead be delivered for irrigation, which reduces operational cost as well as groundwater use in the over-drafted ESJ Basin.

**Identify Expected Outcomes:** The Project, in conjunction with the other efficiency improvement projects to the South System, will result in significant improvements to operational efficiency due to reduced energy use and water loss. The growers located adjacent to the pipeline will have greater incentive to receive surface water from the South System if the cost of water is similar to the cost of pumping from private wells. Therefore, as a result of planned efficiency improvements, NSJWCD anticipates that: (1) approximately 3,000 acres that are currently being irrigated with groundwater will be irrigated using NSJWCD’s surface water right; (2) the District will partner with other water right holders to deliver water in years when its water right is not available; (3) increased surface water deliveries will reduce groundwater elevation decline, avoiding undesirable impacts for landowners; and (4) reduced groundwater elevation decline will assist the ESJ Basin in meeting required sustainability goals under a recently-enacted California law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

II. Evaluation Criteria

A. Project Benefits

1. Benefits to Water Delivery System

This project will help reduce the cost of delivering surface water to agricultural water users in the District by increasing operational efficiency and reducing system losses. The project will also help ensure all surface water diverted is put to maximum beneficial use.

2. Improvements to Overall Water Supply Reliability

This project improves water supply reliability for surface water users by upgrading infrastructure that will be used in a conjunctive use program that will provide surface water for irrigation during wet years so that groundwater will be more-available in dry years when the District cannot divert surface water. The project also increases efficiency so that more of the surface water diverted can be used for irrigation deliveries.

3. Geographic Scope of Benefits (e.g., local, sub-basin, basin)
The proposed project will benefit both downstream water users and downstream aquatic ecosystems and species because the District will be able to match its diversions more-closely with system demands, increasing in-stream water availability when the project is not able to operate at full capacity. Furthermore, the project results in benefits to other groundwater users within the subbasin because it will reduce and possibly reverse groundwater elevation decline, making it more energy efficient to pump groundwater when surface water is not available and less likely that individual wells will need to be re-drilled to a deeper depth. Lastly, the project benefits the entire groundwater basin – implementing a project that will improve sustainability in a portion of the basin makes it more-likely that the entire basin will meet the sustainability goals set forth in SGMA.

4. Improvements to Collaboration and Information Sharing

By reducing the cost of delivering water through the South System, this project opens up new opportunities for NSJWCD to partner with other water users on the Mokelumne River and nearby watersheds in developing new groundwater recharge projects. When other water users have additional flows that can’t be put to beneficial use, those water users can partner with NSJWCD to deliver surface water to landowners for in-lieu banking (i.e. a portion of the water delivered for in-lieu recharge can extracted from the aquifer in future years). A demonstration-level version of this concept is being tested by the District in 2018. Further, increased automation will enable increase NSJWCD’s ability to share real-time water use data from the South System with other stakeholders on the river.

5. Benefits to local sectors and economies (e.g., agriculture, environment, recreation, tourism)

This project has direct benefits to both agriculture and the local economies that rely on agriculture. Under SGMA, existing agricultural operations must reduce reliance on groundwater in order to meet sustainability goals. This project provides a cost-effective alternative to groundwater that will allow existing agricultural operations to assist the District in meeting groundwater sustainability goals without fallowing lands that are currently under production. By helping the District meet sustainability goals without large-scale land fallowing, the project also helps local economies that rely on agricultural production. The downstream ecosystem and species benefits are described in II.A.3.

6. Coordination with NRCS in the area

By reducing the cost of surface water, the Project will increase incentive for farmers to invest in the on-farm booster pumps and flow meters necessary to receive surface water (NSJWCD will require all turnouts be equipped with a meter to receive deliveries). NRCS funding could be used to assist landowners in acquiring and installing flow meters, booster pumps, and related infrastructure. The majority of the irrigated acres served by the NSJWCD South System are drip-irrigated vineyards or cherry or nut orchards irrigated with micro-sprinklers. Many of the landowners within the District have previously utilized NRCS funding programs, such as EQUIP, when installing these low-volume irrigation systems.

B. Planning Efforts to Support the Project
1. Describe how your project is supported by an existing planning effort.
   a. Does the proposed project implement a goal or address a need or problem identified in the existing planning effort?

Improvements to the South System Pump Station and Conveyance Pipeline have been in the planning stages for many years as a method of addressing groundwater overdraft and as a project that would foster increased collaboration on the utilization of Mokelumne River supplies. The potential regional benefits associated with retrofitting the South System are specifically discussed in two separate regional planning documents: (1) the 2015 Mokelumne Watershed Interregional Sustainability Evaluation Program (MokeWISE); and (2) the 2014 Eastern San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (ESJ IRWM).

   b. Explain how the proposed project has been determined as a priority in the existing planning effort as opposed to other potential projects/measures.

When the District was in the early planning stages for how to retrofit the South System, the MokeWISE Program Final Report identified improvements to the South System as a high-priority project because greater utilization of the South System in wetter years will optimize water resources management on the Mokelumne River. The anticipated benefits from the project are discussed on in Appendix 4a of the MokeWISE Final Report.

NSJWCD’s plans to modernize the South System were also identified in Section 10.3.15 of the 2014 Eastern San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (“ESJ IRWM”) as a priority project that promotes several key Integrated Strategies including: (A) Reduce Water Demand (reduces conveyance losses so that more water is applied on-farm); (B) Improve Operational Efficiency and Transfers (provides enhanced opportunities to convey surface water throughout the region); (C) Increase Water Supply (promotes the conjunctive use of surface water in years when it is available, reducing demand on groundwater during wet years so that more is available during dry years); (D) Resources Stewardship (increases water supply reliability to agricultural lands, helping to protect against future losses of agricultural land causes by lack of water supply reliability); (E) Resources Stewardship (reduces cost of delivery for surface water, encouraging more widespread use by agricultural customers).

C. Project Implementation

1. Implementation Schedule for Project

Figure 3 shows the anticipated implementation schedule for each state of the Project. The District anticipates that the project will take approximately 9-months to complete.

2. Required Permits

As described in greater detail in Section V of this application, no permits will be required and a Categorical Exemption/Categorical Exclusion from CEQA/NEPA will likely apply.
3. **Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.**

The District Engineer identified the specific valve to be replaced during a 2017 test run of the South System. The test run revealed that the existing valve had become “frozen” with age and could not be operated reliably. Additionally, Provost & Prichard Consulting Group reviewed the South System as-built drawings, visited and made measurements in key locations of the pipeline and prepared design drawings for the replacement valves and flow meters that have been engineered to 30% design level.

4. **Describe any new policies or administrative actions required to implement the project.**

No new policies or administrative actions are required to implement the project.

5. **Describe how the environmental compliance estimate was developed. Have the compliance costs been discussed with the local Reclamation office?**

See Sections IV and V, the District does not anticipate environmental compliance costs.

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**Figure 3. Project Implementation Schedule.**

**D. Nexus to Reclamation**

1. Is the proposed project connected to a Reclamation project or activity? If so, how?
   Please consider the following:
   a. Does the applicant receive Reclamation project water?

No, applicant does not receive Reclamation project water.
b. Is the project on Reclamation project lands or involving Reclamation facilities?

No, the project does not involve any Reclamation project lands or facilities.

c. Is the project in the same basin as a Reclamation project or activity?

Yes, the Mokelumne River is a tributary of the San Joaquin River.

d. Will the proposed work contribute water to a basin where a Reclamation project is located?

Yes. The project will contribute more surface water to the same basin as the New Melones Project.

e. Will the project benefit any tribe(s)?

NSJWCD is not aware of any tribes that will benefit from the Project.

E. Department of the Interior Priorities

1. Creating a conservation stewardship legacy second only to Teddy Roosevelt
   a. Utilize science to identify best practices to manage land and water resources and adapt to changes in the environment;

   The District is relying on technological advancements, such as RTUs, flow meters, and wireless control systems to better measure its water use, closely tailor water diversions from the Mokelumne River to landowner demands, and reduce energy consumption. Department of the Interior priorities 1b – 1g are not applicable to the proposed project.

2. Utilizing our natural resources
   a. Ensure American Energy is available to meet our security and economic needs;

   The project not only reduces the amount of energy consumption per-acre-foot of water that is delivered to landowners from the South System, it also reduces reliance on private groundwater wells for irrigation, which are very energy-intensive to operate. Department of the Interior priorities 2b – 2d are not applicable to the proposed project.

3. Restoring trust with local communities
   a. Be a better neighbor with those closest to our resources by improving dialogue and relationships with persons and entities bordering our lands;

   This project allows NSJWCD to use surface water more efficiently, which results in less reliance on groundwater. There is a growing potential for conflicts related to groundwater shortages due to restrictions on pumping that will likely take place under SGMA. Replacing
groundwater pumping with surface water deliveries takes pressure off the aquifer and reduces tensions between those that share the aquifer.

b. Expand the lines of communication with Governors, state natural resource offices, Fish and Wildlife offices, water authorities, county commissioners, Tribes, and local communities.

When this project is complete, the reduced water delivery costs will create opportunities for NSJWCD and its landowners to collaborate with state and local agencies on projects to bring surface water from other regions to NSJWCD for groundwater banking projects through direct or in-lieu recharge. Cooperation on the development of these projects will expand the lines of communication.

4. **Striking a regulatory balance**

Department of the Interior priorities 4a – 4b are not applicable to the proposed project.

5. **Modernizing our infrastructure**

Department of the Interior priorities 5a – 5c are not applicable to the proposed project.

III. **Project Budget**

A. **Funding Plan and Letters of Commitment**

NSJWCD anticipates that total project costs for the South System Branch Modernization Project will be $177,900. The District is requesting $75,000 in federal funding and will provide the required $102,900 in matching funds from NSJWCD’s budget reserves. The District will not receive any donations and is not including any in-kind costs incurred prior to the project start date as part of overall project costs. No other funding for this project is being requested from other federal partners. NSJWCD’s cost share for this project is not contingent on pending funding requests.

B. **Budget Proposal**

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Table 1. Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources.
Table 2. Budget Proposal.

C. Budget Narrative

Table 2 contains an itemized breakdown of all of the project costs that are anticipated. The District does not propose to contribute in-kind contributions or donations in order to meet its cost-share requirement.

**Salaries & Wages:** NSJWCD does not have any employees. Instead, it has contracts with independent contractors for legal services, district engineer/manager services, and district secretary services. Table 2 contains estimated cost breakdown of NSJWCD’s anticipated labor costs under Contractual/Construction. The district’s secretary will perform all required grant reporting, she provides services at $40/hour and 20 hours are anticipated for her work. The district’s manager/engineer will work with the construction contractor in preparation for installation of the project equipment and to learn the programming of the installed equipment for district operation after installation. His services are $150/hour and 5 hours are estimated for this work. The district’s general counsel will need to review and advise the district board regarding the grant contract, the construction/ installation contract, project reporting and in preparing necessary district resolutions. Additionally, the district’s general counsel will need to coordinate with BOR staff to complete NEPA review of the project (which is CEQA Exempt). Due to the location and character of the Project, environmental compliance and permitting costs are anticipated to be relatively low. The general counsel provides services at $275/hour and 10 hours are estimated for this work.

**Equipment/ Supplies & Materials:** Equipment ($68,000), supplies and materials ($5,000), and construction labor costs ($60,000) were all determined by consulting engineer Provost and Pritchard Consulting Group after obtaining quotes from suppliers of the various components and engaging in discussions with construction contractors the district has found to be responsible and responsive, along with a review of construction bid databases for the various items to be constructed. Applicant can provide additional supporting documentation for these costs once formal bids have been received.
**Contractual & Construction:** The professional services for engineering consultant ($15,600) represent Provost and Pritchard’s estimated costs for producing final design drawings and performing construction oversight. Construction oversight includes: notifying Underground Service Alert, potholing existing pipelines for exact locations and depths, setting construction stakes, collecting any additional survey information for final design and construction, and periodic reviews of construction by the engineer. The costs associated with hiring a contractor to complete acquisition, installation, and programming equipment required for SCADA integration ($25,000) were developed by Provost and Pritchard through inquiries to eligible contractors. These costs include the equipment, software, programming, and training for required for the water monitoring and control systems.

IV. **Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance**

1. **Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)?** Please briefly describe all earth-disturbing work and any work that will affect the air, water, or animal habitat in the project area. Please also explain the impacts of such work on the surrounding environment and any steps that could be taken to minimize the impacts.

   The Project involves modifications to a T in an existing concrete pipeline. Any soil disturbance from the Project will be limited to areas within the existing pipeline right of way. There are no anticipated impacts to air, water, or animal habitat in the project area.

2. **Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area?** If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?

   An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration prepared to analyze a related project occurring in the same area as the South System Branch Automation project analyzes potential impacts to threatened or endangered species and designated critical habitat in the project area. Based on a Biological Assessment of the project area, it was determined that likelihood of occurrence of listed, candidate, and other special-status species in the project area is low. Any potential impacts that would occur will be avoided by timing construction/installation to avoid sensitive times of year such as nesting season. It is unlikely that the work will have any impact.

3. **Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States?”** If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have.

   No work proposed under the Project will take place in areas that fall under Clean Water Act jurisdiction as Waters of the United States.
4. When was the water delivery system constructed?

The South System has been constructed in phases. The initial phase of the project, which included the original pump station and cast-in-place concrete conveyance system, was first constructed in the early-1960s and has been modified over time. The district will be making modifications to a T in the cast-in-place concrete pipe conveyance system.

5. Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., headgates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously.

The proposed project involves making modifications to an above-ground valve box and a small portion of pipeline that were constructed in the early 1960’s. No headgates, canals, or flumes will be modified.

6. Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at your local Reclamation office or the State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.

NSJWCD’s boundaries contain over 150,000 acres of land within San Joaquin County. The District has not undertaken a survey of all cultural resources located within its service area. However, as is discussed below, there are no known archeological sites or cultural resources in the project area.

7. Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?

A cultural resources report was prepared to analyze potential impacts of a larger, related project on cultural resources in an area that encompasses the project area. That report determined that there are no archeological sites or cultural resources located in the proposed project area. Additionally, because the project will be taking place in an area that was already been subject to disturbance when the pipeline was installed, any anticipated impacts would have already been subject to evaluation and mitigation.

8. Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?

The proposed project will not have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations.

9. Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?

The proposed project will not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands.
10. Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?

The proposed project will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area.

V. Required Permits or Approvals

No permits or approvals are required for this project because it consists of installing pre-fabricated equipment in an existing utility and pipeline easement. Earth disturbance will be conducted entirely within the existing area of disturbance located in the pipeline easement. There are no potential impacts to endangered species, and no contact with waters under the jurisdiction of the United States. An encroachment permit from San Joaquin County will be required for all work proposed to take place in the public right of way.

VI. Letters of Project Support

NSJWCD received the following letters of support for a related grant application involving efficiency improvements to the South System. The support expressed in these letters applies equally to the efficiency improvements contemplated by the present project. These letters of support are included in Attachments A and B.

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<th>#</th>
<th>Agency / Legislative</th>
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<td>Amador Water Agency</td>
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<td>Asmb. Eggman</td>
<td>Diane J. Hirasuna</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Byron-Bethany Irrigation District</td>
<td>John Bava &amp; Sons, Inc.</td>
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<td>Banta-Carbona Irrigation District</td>
<td>Kautz Farms</td>
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<td>Calaveras County Water District</td>
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<td>California Sportfishing Protection Alliance</td>
<td>Larry D. Miller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>City of Lodi</td>
<td>Ron and Michiko Oye</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>East Bay Municipal Utility District</td>
<td>Joseph Petersen</td>
</tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Sen. Galgiani</td>
<td>John Podesta Farms</td>
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<td>South Delta Water Agency</td>
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VII. Official Resolution

The NSJWCD Resolution approving this grant application is provided as Attachment C.
Attachment A

Letters of Support
Local Agencies and
Legislative Representatives
May 2, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Dear Mr. Darrel Olson:

The Amador Water Agency provides treated water to all five cities in Amador County and to Central Amador along the Highway 88 corridor and 100% of this water is diverted from the Mokelumne River. Efficient and effective use of water supplies from the Mokelumne River and local ground water sources are critical to meeting water supply demands.

The purpose of this letter is to support the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District's grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

Also, the District works collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Gene Mancebo
General Manager
May 2, 2018

Darren Olson, Grants Management Specialist
Bureau of Reclamation
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Mr. Olson:

I am writing to express my support for the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project on the south side of the Mokelumne River, east of Lodi, California.

As you may know, the South Pump system delivered Mokelumne River water to agricultural lands in northern San Joaquin County. It has not been operated since the 2012-2015 drought because the current system is very inefficient. The North San Joaquin Water Conservation District has set aside $1.75 million to rebuild the system with water efficiency features that will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, reduce reliance on groundwater, protect fishery flows and improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin. A Water and Energy Efficiency grant from the Bureau of Reclamation would allow the District to complete this important project.

Thank you for considering the District’s application. If you have questions, feel free to contact my District Director, Anne Baird, at 209-948-7479.

Sincerely,

SUSAN TALAMANTES EGGMAN
Assemblymember, 13th District
May 2, 2018

Mr. Darren Olson, MS 84-27814
Bureau of Reclamation
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225

Subject: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project – Letter of Support.

The purpose of this letter is to advise the Bureau of Reclamation of the Byron Bethany Irrigation District’s (BBID) support for the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s (NSJWCD or District) grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project. BBID is a multi-county special district serving parts of Alameda, Contra Costa and San Joaquin counties across 47 square miles and 30,000 acres. BBID is also a CVP Contractor.

With respect to NSJWCD’s project, adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow NSJWCD to deliver surface water at a lower cost, thus reducing landowner reliance on groundwater and improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

Also, NSJWCD has worked collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the District in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Very Truly Yours,

Rick Gilmore
General Manager
May 1, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation  
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson  
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Letter of Support for Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Dear Mr. Olsen,

The purpose of this letter is to support the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project. The Banta-Carbona Irrigation District (BCID) serves about 17,000 acres of agricultural land within San Joaquin County in the southern Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The BCID has been using pump station automation for the past thirteen years and recommends that other districts invest in it as well. The automation systems are robust and are reliable for several years with minimal maintenance. Pump station automation allows for greater flexibility in providing water to growers in a timely manner hence decreasing waste through over irrigation or through operational spills. By eliminating or decreasing those losses more water remains in the river system to help meet environmental purposes. It also decreases energy use as less water is pumped.

Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San
Joaquin Subbasin. By using less groundwater this also reduces energy use as the depth to water is great. The existing surface water supply requires much less energy than the groundwater wells.

Also, the District works collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

David Weisenberger
General Manager
May 2, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Dear Mr. Olsen:

On behalf of the Calaveras County Water District (CCWD), I am writing in support of the grant proposal for the South Pump Station Automation Project submitted by the Northern San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD). CCWD is a county-wide water district that provides agricultural supplies and water service to approximately 21,000 residents throughout Calaveras County. Calaveras County is located in the heart of the Sierra Nevada, east of the Northern San Joaquin Valley between Lake Tahoe and Yosemite National Park, spanning more than 1,000 square miles of three watersheds of the Sacramento/San Joaquin Bay-Delta, including the upper reaches of the Mokelumne, Calaveras and Stanislaus Rivers, from an elevation range of more than 8,000 feet at mountain crest to 200 feet in the foothills near the Central Valley floor. CCWD also manages and supplies municipal water from a portion of the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater subbasin extending into Calaveras County.

NSJWCD’s South Pump Station Automation Project will help maximize the local use of Mokelumne River supplies. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow NSJWCD to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, reducing landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater subbasin. CCWD is a participating groundwater sustainability agency within the Eastern San Joaquin groundwater subbasin and there is a mutual interest with NSJWCD in alleviating the existing overdraft conditions over time.

Further, NSJWCD works collaboratively with other water agencies on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.
I encourage you to give favorable consideration of the application from NSJWD. If you have any questions or would like more information about our support for the project, please do not hesitate to contact me at (209) 754-3094 or peterm@ccwd.org.

CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

[Signature]

Peter Martin
Manager of Water Resources
May 6, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Dear Mr. Olsen:

The California Sportfishing Protection Alliance (CSPA) respectfully submits this letter in support of North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s application for a grant to help pay for its South Pump Station Automation Project. The grant will allow the District to improve its water delivery efficiency, reducing costs and allowing it to more fully exercise its water rights to reduce groundwater overdraft.

CSPA is a statewide organization that seeks to improve conditions for fisheries and recreational fishing, and is a longstanding advocate for the fisheries of the lower Mokelumne River. Over the past several years, CSPA has been pleased to see the District’s leadership become a more active and collaborative partner with other stakeholders on the river. The District’s planned infrastructure upgrades, including new metering and remote telemetry, will contribute to a more effective management of the lower Mokelumne River. In addition, these improvements to the District’s diversion works will provide an example of modernization that CSPA supports for water users statewide.

Thank you for considering the application of the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District and this letter of support.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Chris Shutes
Water Rights Advocate
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
May 1, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

The City of Lodi is one of a number of users of the aquifer we share with the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD). We have been a leader in increasing sustainable yield of surface water in the aquifer, purchasing over 7,000 acre feet of surface water a year and constructing a $32 million surface water treatment plant.

The purpose of this letter is to express support for the NSJWCD’s grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin sub basin.

Also, the District works collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

We are encouraged to see NSJWCD take an active role in continuing that effort and fully support its efforts to create a more sustainable groundwater aquifer in our region. Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Alan Nakanishi
Mayor, City of Lodi
May 2, 2018

United States Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Dear Mr. Olson:

The East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) is a public utility that provides water to 1.4 million customers in the East San Francisco Bay Area. EBMUD’s main water supply is Mokelumne River water from its Pardee and Camanche Reservoirs. EBMUD also partners with agencies in San Joaquin County on projects related to groundwater banking, watershed protection, and managing fishery resources in the Mokelumne River.

The purpose of this letter is to express EBMUD’s support for the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (District)’s grant application, which would provide funds for the South Pump Station Automation Project. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters, and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

In addition, EBMUD and the District are partners on several projects in San Joaquin County. The agencies work with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the District in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station. EBMUD and the District are also partnering on a pilot groundwater banking project in San Joaquin County. Improvements to the South Pump Station could enable future groundwater banking projects in this critically over-drafted basin.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Tognolini
Manager of Water Supply Improvements
May 01, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Dear Mr. Olson,

I am pleased to write to give my support to the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s grant application for the South Pump Station Automation Project. My district is at the heart of California’s water system, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Water efficiency is critical to our area and the entire state. This project is a good example of the extensive efforts by many of our water districts to operate more efficiently and conserve water.

Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Sub-basin.

Also, the District works collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

I believe the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District proposal demonstrates their ongoing commitment to improving water conservation and best practices. I strongly support their efforts and appreciate your thoughtful consideration of their grant application.

Sincerely,

Cathleen Galgiani
Senator, 5th District
May 1, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

South Delta Water Agency is statutorily mandated to protect the quality and quantity of the water in the channels of the southern Delta for beneficial uses on the surrounding lands. As part of our efforts we are involved in many county- and state-wide processes and efforts dealing with the protection of water rights and the allocation and use of water.

The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Sub-basin.

Also, the District works collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.
Mr. Darren Olson
Very truly yours,

JOHN HERRICK
April 30, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

The Stockton East Water District provides surface water for both agricultural and urban uses. By providing surface water for agricultural irrigation, the District supports San Joaquin County’s agricultural industry, which is the area’s leading economic activity. SEWD also supplies wholesale treated surface water, which is retailed to Stockton area customers by the California Water Service Company, the City of Stockton, and San Joaquin County. Since 1978, the SEWD Drinking Water Treatment Plant has produced over a million acre-feet of water for urban use; enough to cover the City of Stockton’s 56.5 square mile area over 25-feet deep in water.

The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

Also, the District works collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Scot A. Moody, General Manager
Stockton East Water District
May 2, 2018

Mr. Darren Olson, MS 84-27814
Bureau of Reclamation
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225

Subject: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project – Letter of Support.

The purpose of this letter is to advise the Bureau of Reclamation of The West Side Irrigation District’s (TWSID) support for the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s (NSJWCD or District) grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project. TWSID is a special district serving 6,500 acres within San Joaquin County. TWSID is also a CVP Contractor.

With respect to NSJWCD’s project, adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow NSJWCD to deliver surface water at a lower cost, thus reducing landowner reliance on groundwater and improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

Also, NSJWCD has worked collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the District in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Very Truly Yours,

Rick Gilmore
General Manager
May 7, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Dear Mr. Olson,

On behalf of the Lodi District Grape Growers Association (LDGGA), I am writing in support of the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project.

The Lodi District Grape Growers Association (LDGGA) represents wine grape growers and associated businesses in California Crush District 11. Crush District 11 includes 110,000 acres of premium wine grapes in northern San Joaquin County and southern Sacramento County. Approximately 44,000 of those acres are grown within the boundaries of the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, accounting for about 70% of the irrigated farmland in the North San Joaquin’s District.

Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

Also, the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District works collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (209) 339-8246 or info@ldgga.org.

Sincerely,

Amy Blagg
LDGGA Executive Director
May 9, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

The San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation is a private, not for profit, volunteer organization and San Joaquin County’s oldest agriculture organization, dedicated to the advancement of agriculture for over 100 years. We are committed to the protection of the natural resources that our industry depends on, including land and water. As such, we are pleased to support this grant application to improve and preserve our resources.

The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s grant application for funds to help pay for the South Pump Station Automation Project. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. This, in turn, will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost, which will reduce landowner reliance on groundwater and help improve groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

Also, the District works collaboratively with other stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the district in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for river diversions from the South Pump Station.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Jim Ferrari
President

3290 NORTH AD ART ROAD • STOCKTON, CA • 95215 • (209) 931-4931 • (209) 931-1433 Fax
WWW.SJFB.ORG
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attention: Mr. Darren Olson
Post Office Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, Colorado 80225

SUBJECT: WATER AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT APPLICATION BY NORTH SAN JOAQUIN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR THE SOUTH PUMP STATION AUTOMATION PROJECT

San Joaquin County Department of Public Works is pleased to support the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District's (District) grant application for the South Pump Station Automation Project. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit to the South Pump Station will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and reduce operational spills and system losses. The Project will allow the District to deliver surface water at a lower cost resulting in reduced landowner reliance on groundwater and improved groundwater overdraft conditions in the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

The District has and will continue to work collaboratively with stakeholders on the Mokelumne River to help manage and protect fishery flows. An automated South Pump Station will help the District in this collaborative effort by providing additional flexibility and control for diversions from the South Pump Station.

San Joaquin County Department of Public Works is pleased to lend its support to the District's application and encourages your favorable consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (209) 468-3089, or by email at bnakagawa@sjgov.org.

Sincerely,

BRANDON W. NAKAGAWA, P.E.
Water Resources Coordinator

BWN:rc
WR-18E019-R1
Attachment B

Landowner Letters of Support
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System. The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed, I plan to retrofit my irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the District. I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation

ATTN: Mr. Darren Olsen
   P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
   Denver, CO 80225

RE: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application
   by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District
   for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District's service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System.

The purpose of this letter is to support the North San Joaquin's grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the district to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the district's South System Pump Station are completed I plan retrofit my irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the water district. I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible.

This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Diane Hirasuna

Diane T. Hirasuna
April 28, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Dear Mr. Olsen,

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System, more specifically, along the Bear Creek canal.

The purpose of this letter is to show my support for the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed, I would be able to utilize my existing pump station that is on the canal to irrigate my ranch with the surface water provided by North San Joaquin.

Due to the slow, but steady (roughly 1 foot per year) decline in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce our dependence on groundwater. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

If you should have any questions, feel free to contact me at petek@avantinut.com or on my cell phone- 209-479-3865.

Sincerely,
Pete Katzakian
Vice President, John Bava and Son Inc.
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System. The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed, I plan to retrofit my irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the District. I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Kautz Farms
Diversified Farming
May 3, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
PO Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

We are agricultural landowners who farm within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and our property is located adjacent to the South System. The purpose of this letter is to support the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to our farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for our operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed we plan to retrofit our irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter so that we can receive surface water deliveries from the District. We plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding our property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lance Leffler

Ronn Leffler
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation

ATTN: Mr. Darren Olsen
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

RE: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application
by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District
for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System.

The purpose of this letter is to support the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the district to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the district’s South System Pump Station are completed I plan retrofit my irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the water district. I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible.

This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Larry D. Miller
May 1, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
PO Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I live and farm within the area of North San Joaquin Water Conservation District. I attended a meeting not too long ago that discussed the need for the water district to upgrade its’ South Pump Station to be more efficient. This requires adding a variable frequency drive to its’ pump, new meters, and a remote telemetry unit which would improve the District’s ability to deliver surface water to my farm in an efficient and affordable manner.

Since my property is adjacent to Pixley Slough, I would be able to benefit from the surface water after the temporary dam is rebuilt and a booster pump installed. I am planning to check with NRCS for funding assistance for these farm improvements.

My understanding is that the aquifer under our property has decreased to a lower level. Thus it is becoming more evident that the surface water needs to be utilized when available and save our underground water for years when we experience drought conditions. This project gives me an opportunity to be involved with the District to improve the local ground water level without sacrificing our orchard acreage.

Thank you for considering the North San Joaquin’s application and reading this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Ron and Michiko Oye
May 5, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

Mr. Olsen:

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System. The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

I have already installed a booster pump and flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the District. I would like to irrigate significantly more acres than can currently be serviced by my existing facilities. If the district system is improved, I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these additional improvements.

I am a true believer in reducing our dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Regards,

Joe Petersen
(209) 210-8010
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System. The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed, I plan to retrofit my irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the District. I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

JOHN PODESTA FARMS
9206 N. Hildreth Lane
Stockton, CA 95212
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System. The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed, I plan to retrofit my irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the District. I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Jim Quaschnick
Quaschnick Farms
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Subject: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I am co-trustee with the majority member of TKH, LLC. TKH, LLC owns and farms 120 Acres of cherries within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and the property is located adjacent to the South System. Jim Quaschnick is our ranch manager and he farms the property for TKH, LLC.

The purpose of this letter is to support the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and remote telemetry unit will allow the district to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to this farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for the operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed, we plan to retrofit the irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter on the ranch so that we can receive surface water delivers from the District. We plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding the property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.
Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Rudy G. Croce
TKH, LLC
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District for the South Pump Station Automation Project

I am an agricultural landowner who farms within North San Joaquin Water Conservation District’s service area and my property is located adjacent to the South System. The purpose of this letter is to support for the North San Joaquin’s grant application for funds to help pay for the automation project for the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed, I plan to retrofit my irrigation system with a booster pump and flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the District. I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Jeff J. Colombini
General Partner

Telephone (209) 948-0792
May 10, 2018

Bureau of Reclamation
Attn: Mr. Darren Olson
P.O. Box 25007, MS 84-27814
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Application by North San Joaquin Water Conservation District

To Whom it May Concern:

I own and farm land in North San Joaquin Water Conservation District. Groundwater levels have continued to decline in the district and I strongly support the district’s efforts to conserve water and modernize its South System to provide surface water more efficiently. The purpose of this letter is to show my support for the North San Joaquin grant application seeking financial assistance for improvements to the South Pump Station. Adding a variable frequency drive, new meters and a remote telemetry unit will allow the District to improve the efficiency of its operations and make delivering surface water to my farm more efficient, and thus more affordable for my operation.

Once the improvements to the District’s South Pump Station are completed, I plan to retrofit my irrigation system, as needed, and add a flow meter so that I can receive surface water deliveries from the District. I plan to look at the NRCS funding assistance opportunities available for these on-farm facilities.

Because of the significant declines in groundwater levels in the area surrounding my property, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce dependence on groundwater use whenever possible. This project represents a unique and valuable opportunity to improve local groundwater levels without sacrificing the number of acres currently being used for agricultural production.

Thank you for taking the time to consider North San Joaquin’s application and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

John Ferreira
Attachment C

North San Joaquin Water Conservation District
Resolution Approving Grant Application
WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Reclamation’s (Reclamation) Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants provide funding to non-federal entities to implement actions to increase water supply reliability through investments in existing infrastructure and attention to local water conflicts; and

WHEREAS, Reclamation requires that Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant applicant adopt a resolution verifying (1) the identity of the official with legal authority to enter into agreement, (2) the board of directors, governing body, or appropriate official who has reviewed and supports the application submitted, (3) the capability of the applicant to provide the amount of funding and/or in-kind contributions specified in the funding plan, and (4) that the applicant will work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement; and

WHEREAS, North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD or District) desires to apply for a Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant to assist the District with the South System Branch Automation Project, a project designed to improve water use efficiency by replacing an existing valve located in the South System pipeline.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of North San Joaquin Water Conservation District as follows:

1. The Board of Directors finds that it is in the best interests of NSJWCD to apply for a Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant in order to help fund the South System Branch Automation Project, a project designed to improve water use efficiency by replacing an existing valve located in the South System pipeline.

2. The Board of Directors has reviewed and supports the Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant application package and directs staff to prepare and submit an application for funding. The Board of Directors authorizes Directors _______ and _______ to review and approve the final grant application for submittal.

3. The Board of Directors finds it is capable of providing the amount of funding and/or in-kind contributions specified in the funding plan, subject to compliance with Proposition 218.

4. The Board of Directors agrees to work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.

5. The Board of Directors authorizes the Board President to do and cause to be done any and all acts necessary or convenient to carry out the purpose and intent of this resolution to the extent that any such acts do no need to be taken by the Board of Directors.
Moved by Director **Flinn**, seconded by Director **Starr**, that the foregoing resolution be **approved**.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ayes:</th>
<th>4 Directors</th>
<th><strong>Starr, Simpson, Flinn, Valente</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noes:</td>
<td>0 Directors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absent:</td>
<td>1 Directors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstain:</td>
<td>0 Director</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The President declared the resolution passed.

I, David Simpson, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the NORTH SAN JOAQUIN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, do hereby **CERTIFY** that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at an adjourned regular meeting of said Board of Directors held the 25th day of June 2018.