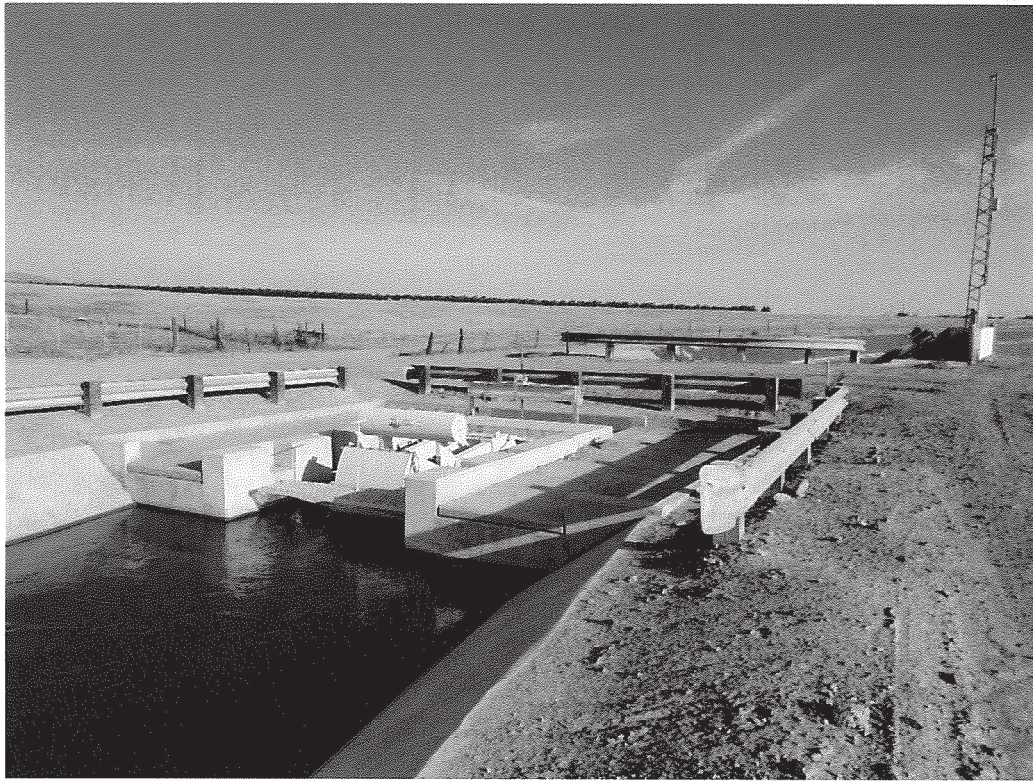


Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal Monitoring



Grant Program:

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
Notice of Funding Opportunity No R22AS00195

Grant Applicant:

San Luis Water District
1015 Sixth Street
P.O. Box 2135
Los Banos, California 93635-2135

April 2022

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Executive Summary

Applicant and Application Date

Date: April 28, 2022

Applicant: San Luis Water District
1015 Sixth Street
P.O. Box 2135
Lon Banos; California 93635

County: Merced and Fresno
State: California

Eligible Applicant Category

The applicant, San Luis Water District (“District”), is a Category A applicant. SLWD is a water district organized under California Water Code section 34000 et seq.

Project Summary

The Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal Monitoring Project, hereinafter “Project”, will install water level elevation monitoring instrumentation at two locations on the Third Lift Canal and one location on the Relift Canal and upgrade existing programmable logic controllers at Pumping Plant Nos. 3, 4, and 5. The water level monitoring instrumentation and the upgraded programmable logic controllers will be integrated into the District’s existing supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system. After completing the Project, the District operations staff will have the ability to: (1) closely monitor canal water levels and adjust gate settings to eliminate spills at the end of the canal; (2) optimize pumping operations between Pumping Plant No. 3 and Pumping Plant No. 17 to reduce unnecessary pumping and corresponding energy usage; (3) monitor operations remotely reducing employee travel and increasing staff productivity; and (4) respond to unexpected operational issues quickly and in some circumstances remotely. The Project is expected to conserve an estimated 40 acre-feet of water, reduce Project Use Energy consumption by 67,760 kilowatt-hours, reduce employee travel by 13,500 miles saving 750 gallons of gasoline, and reduce staff time by 900 hours, all on an annual basis. The energy and fuel savings will result in an annual greenhouse gas reduction of 54.7 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) equivalent.

Project Location

The San Luis Water District is located in the County of Merced and the County of Fresno within the State of California. The District lies along the western edge of the San Joaquin Valley floor and the western extent of the District extends into the foothills adjoining the Diablo Mountain Range south of San Luis Reservoir.

The San Luis Water District includes three improvement districts, Improvement District No. 1, Improvement District No. 2, and Improvement District No. 3. The Project is located in Improvement District Nos. 1 and 2 along the Relift Canal and the Third Lift Canal, and the pumping plants serving and along those canals.

The Project location, represented by the Third Lift Canal headworks, is latitude is 36.756224° N and longitude 120.742940° W.

A map of the Project location is provided below.

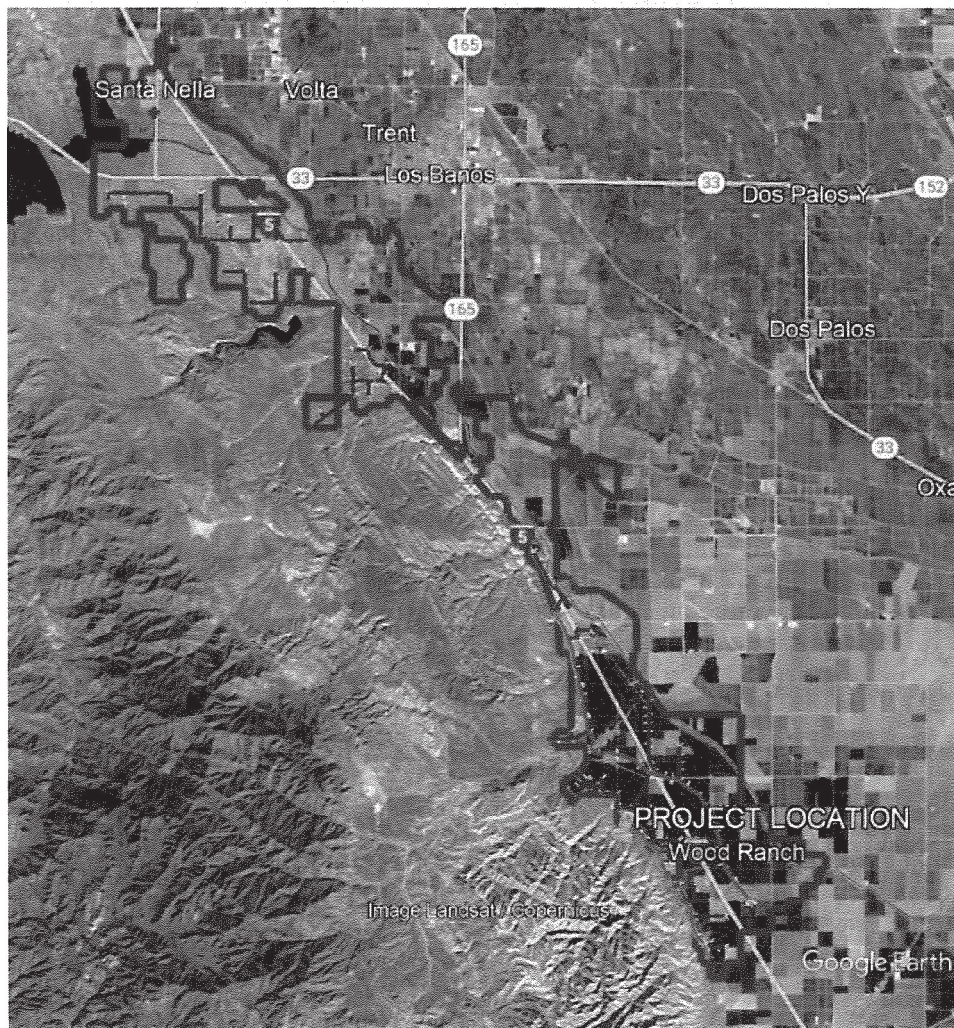


Figure 1. Project Location

Technical Project Description

The Project will install water level elevation monitoring instrumentation at Check 1 and Check 5 on the Third Lift Canal and Check 4 on the Relift Canal. The Project will also upgrade existing programmable logic controllers at Pumping Plant Nos. 3, 4, and 5. The water level monitoring instrumentation and the upgraded programmable logic controllers will then be integrated into the District's existing supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system. The technical description of the Project scope is provided below. It is preceded by relevant background information facility operations and a discussion of Project objectives to properly establish the context and need of the Project.

Operational Background

All of the water delivered by the San Luis Water District is provided by Reclamation through two Central Valley Project conveyances, the San Luis Canal and the Delta-Mendota Canal. Water is delivered by the District to one of three improvements districts within its boundaries. The majority of water delivered is into Improvement District Nos. 1 and 2 in the southern portion of the District. A small percentage of deliveries within the District are made by turnouts located directly on the Delta-Mendota Canal or the San Luis Canal. These deliveries are referred to as "Direct Deliveries" by the District. All other deliveries, which constitute a majority of the deliveries to Improvement District Nos. 1 and 2, are pumped from the San Luis Canal into the Relift Canal by Pumping Plant No. 3 and Pumping Plant No. 17. Pumping Plant No. 3 pumps into the headworks of the Relift Canal while Pumping Plant No. 17 pumps into Pool 6 (upstream of Check 6) of the Relift Canal.

Water deliveries flow down the Relift Canal approximately 4.2 miles past the inlet of Pumping Plant No. 4 where a portion of the delivery is lifted to Reservoir No. 4 and serves a small 3 square mile portion of Improvement District No. 2.

Water deliveries flow down the Relift Canal approximately another 2.9 miles (7.1 miles total) to Pumping Plant No. 5. There are several delivery laterals and turnouts located along this reach of the Relift Canal. Water deliveries to Improvement District No. 2 will then be pumped from the Relift Canal at Pumping Plant No. 5 into the headworks for the Third Lift Canal.

The remaining water in the Relift Canal then flows past Pumping Plant No. 5 and continues to flow down the Relift Canal approximately 2.4 more miles to the Lateral 46 headworks. There are several delivery laterals and turnouts located along this reach of the Relift Canal.

Lateral 46 serves as a delivery lateral and as the discharge pipeline from Pumping Plant No. 17 which is also located along the San Luis Canal and serves the lower reaches of the Relift Canal. Pumping Plant No. 17 is the most recently constructed pumping plant and was constructed in 1999. It was constructed to alleviate delivery constraints in the lower reaches of the Relift Canal. It also has the advantage of a lower pumping lift to deliver water into the Relift Canal. Pumping Plant No. 17 is fully integrated into the District's SCADA system and can operate autonomously, remotely from the District Shop, or manually.

At the Lateral 46 headworks on the Relift Canal, water pumped from the San Luis Canal is typically introduced into the canal and continues to flow () miles toward the terminus of the canal. The 9.45 mile reach of the Relift Canal from the canal headworks to the Lateral 46 headworks is lined with a high-density polyethylene (HDPE) material. The remaining 3.3 mile reach from the Lateral 46 headworks to the terminus of the canal does not have a liner.

There is a check structure at the terminus of the Relift Canal and any water flowing over the check is captured in an unlined spill reservoir. Water flowing into the spill reservoir can be recovered and pumped upstream of the check structure by an automated lift pump. The spill recovery facilities are not designed to recover minor spills or evacuate all water from the spill reservoir and some water is lost when spills occur.

As stated earlier, water is delivered into Improvement District No. 2 by Pumping Plant No. 5 and the Third Lift Canal. The Third Lift Canal serves a smaller area within the District and is more susceptible to operational issues when unexpected changes in deliveries occur, typically from growers initiating or terminating their deliveries unexpectedly. Water deliveries flow down the canal 5.0 miles until the reach the termination of the canal. The entire canal is lined with an HDPE material it has a recovery reservoir similar to that described for the Relift Canal.

Pumping Plant Design

The table below provides design information for each of the pumping plants located in Improvement District No. 1. The design information along with stated assumptions serve as the basis for the calculation of Project benefits.

Table 1. Pumping Plant Design Information

	Pumping Plant No. 3	Pumping Plant No. 4	Pumping Plant No. 5	Pumping Plant No. 17
Number of Pumps	9	3	5	4
Installed Horesepower	7100 hp	400 hp	3000 hp	1200
Design Flow	238.3 cfs	9.45 cfs	71.4 cfs	46.9 cfs
Suction Pool Elevation	338 ft	478 ft	474 ft	334 ft
Discharge Pool Elevation	482 ft	706 ft	716 ft	466 ft
Design Lift	162 feet	264 feet	264 feet	140 ft +/-
Energy Required (kWh per AF)*	221 kWh	360 kWh	360 kWh	191 kWh

* Assumes a 75% overall plant efficiency

Existing Facilities

The facilities within Improvement District No. 1 were initially constructed in 1960. At that time, Pumping Plant No. 1 was constructed to lift water from the Delta-Mendota Canal into the District's Main Canal. A second pumping plant, Pumping Plant No. 2, was also constructed to lift the water into the Relift Canal. The Main Canal and the Relift Canal have also occasionally been referred to as the First Lift Canal and the Second Lift Canal.

Improvement Districts No. 2 and No. 3 were formed in 1972 and additional facilities were constructed in the late 1970's to deliver water to these areas from the newly constructed San Luis

Canal. Additional facilities in Improvement Districts No. 1 and No. 2 include Pumping Plant Nos. 3, 4, and 5.

The main source of water for Improvement District No. 1 was changed in 1983 from the Delta Mendota Canal to the San Luis Canal. The San Luis Canal traverses the District at a higher elevation than the Delta Mendota Canal which reduces pumping costs and increases the District area that can be served by gravity conveyances.

In 2005, Pumping Plant No. 17 was constructed to improve deliveries to the southern portion of Improvement District No. 1. The construction of the pumping plant created a second location where water is lifted from the San Luis Canal into the Relift Canal.

Pumping Plant Nos. 3, 4, and 5 were initially designed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and constructed with analog controls to sequence the start and stop of pumps based on water level. The analog controls proved unworkable and the controls were quickly replaced with programmable logic controllers. The existing programmable logic controllers, installed in the late 1970's, have worked effectively and not been replaced to date. Unfortunately, the existing programmable logic controllers have been obsolete for decades and spare parts and programming tools for the units are no longer available.

Project Objectives

Because of its location along the base of the foothills along the west side of the Central Valley, the San Luis Water District has a rather extensive and capital-intensive distribution system. In order to provide feasible water service to District landowners, the District must find opportunities to improve efficiencies wherever possible. Completion of the Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal Monitoring Project will take advantage of one such opportunity.

After completing of the Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal Monitoring Project, District operations staff will have the ability to: (1) closely monitor canal water levels and adjust gate settings to eliminate spills at the end of the canal; (2) optimize pumping operations between Pumping Plant No. 3 and Pumping Plant No. 17 to reduce unnecessary pumping and corresponding energy usage; (3) monitor operations remotely reducing employee travel and increasing staff productivity; and (4) respond to unexpected operational issues quickly and in some circumstances remotely.

Water Level Elevation Monitoring

The Project will install water level elevation monitoring instrumentation at two locations on the Third Lift Canal and one location on the Relift Canal. Details on each of the monitoring locations are discussed below.

Relift Canal Check 4

The Check 4 is a key location on the Relift Canal. Pumping Plant No. 5 is located downstream of Check 4 and requires that canal levels be maintained within prescribed limits for proper pump operation. The demands at Pumping Plant No. 5 can vary as pumps are started and stopped to

serve the Third Lift Canal. The varying demands make it difficult to maintain water levels in that reach of the Relift Canal.

The instrumentation installed on the Relift Canal at Check 4 will be used to monitor canal levels above and below Check 4. A water level sensor will be installed upstream of the check structure. In addition to canal level monitoring, an electroconductivity sensor will be installed to monitor water quality in the canal. The three sensors will be wired to a remote terminal unit. The RTU will be housed in a weatherproof metallic enclosure and mounted on a galvanized pole with a concrete footing. A directional radio antenna will be installed at the top of the pole and will be directed to the master antenna located at the District shop. A radio modem will be used to transmit information from the RTU, through the antenna, to the District's SCADA system. The equipment will be powered by a new electrical service from the local utility.

Third Lift Canal Check 1

Check 1 on the Third Lift Canal is another key location and is used to establish the overall flow in the canal. Precise operations at Check 1 are key to avoiding spills at the end of the canal. District staff set the Check 1 gates based on the anticipated downstream demands for the canal. Water is lifted into the canal from the Relift Canal by Pumping plant No. 5.

The scope of work at Check 1 on the Third Lift Canal is identical to the scope for RLC Check 4 except that the electroconductivity sensor will be omitted.

Third Lift Canal Check 5

Check 5 on the Third Lift Canal represents the terminus of the canal and water delivered past the check spills into a terminal reservoir. Operationally, it is desirable to avoid these spills as the spilled water is difficult to recover. This location is monitored to determine if the appropriate amount of water is being delivered into the canal. When water levels upstream of the check increase or decrease, adjustments to the gates at Check 1 are needed.

The instrumentation installed on the Third Lift Canal at Check 5 will be used to monitor canal levels above Check 5 and in the terminal reservoir. A water level sensor will be installed upstream of the check structure and in the terminal reservoir. In addition, the motor controller for the recovery pump will be monitored and a status signal provided. Presently, the lift pump is automated using a mechanical float and no changes in lift pump operation are planned as a part of the Project. The two sensors and the pump status signal will be wired to a remote terminal unit. The RTU will be housed in a weatherproof metallic enclosure and mounted on a galvanized pole with a concrete footing. A directional radio antenna will be installed at the top of the pole and will be directed to the master antenna located at the District shop. A radio modem will be used to transmit information from the RTU, through the antenna, to the District's SCADA system. The equipment will be powered by an existing electrical service to the check structure.

Programmable Logic Controller Upgrade

As previously discussed, the existing programmable logic controllers at Pumping Plant Nos. 3, 4, and 5 were installed shortly after the construction of the pumping plants. The units are over 40

years old and have been obsolete for decades. Replacement parts and programming tools for the units are no longer available. The existing units work in conjunction with a telephone dialer system to notify District staff of issues. Due to the nature of phone service in the remote area, the dialer system is unreliable and physical observation of the plant is required to monitor operations.

The Project will replace the existing programmable logic controllers at Pumping Plant Nos. 3, 4, and 5 with new programmable controllers that provide additional and improved functionality. The upgrades, once integrated into the District's SCADA system, will provide increased efficiency and effectiveness of water distribution over the expected life of the Project. The upgrade is needed to incorporate monitoring of pumping plant status with canal level monitoring to facilitate remote monitoring of canal operations.

Details on each of the upgrade locations are discussed below.

Pumping Plant No. 3

The existing programmable logic controller and telephone dialer will be removed and replaced with a new programmable logic controller. Supplemental controls installed for pump operation shall also be removed and the control logic for pump operation shall be incorporated into the PLC. The PLC shall be configured to accommodate the existing input and output signal types and voltages. The existing template PLC program shall be modified to accommodate operation of all pumps and uploaded in the new PLC. Proper function of the new PLC and program shall be tested using simulated inputs before being placed into service.

The PLC will be housed in the same compartment as the existing PLC which is within the existing metallic enclosures. A radio antenna tower and directional radio antenna tower will be installed near the metallic enclosures and the antenna will be directed to the master antenna located at the District shop. A radio modem installed in the same compartment as the PLC will be used to transmit information from the PLC, through the antenna, to the District's SCADA system. The equipment will be powered using existing control power within the enclosure.

Pumping Plant No. 4

The existing analog controls and telephone dialer will be removed and replaced with a new programmable logic controller. The PLC shall be configured to accommodate the existing input and output signal types and voltages. The existing template PLC program shall be modified to remove lead/lag functionality since there are no lead/lag pairs of pumps installed at this pumping plant. The modified PLC program shall be uploaded in the new PLC. Proper function of the new PLC and program shall be tested using simulated inputs before being placed into service.

All other details for Pumping Plant No. 4 are the same as those presented in the second paragraph for Pumping Plant No. 3.

Pumping Plant No. 5

The existing programmable logic controller and telephone dialer will be removed and replaced with a new programmable logic controller. The PLC shall be configured to accommodate the existing input and output signal types and voltages. The existing template PLC program shall be

replicated and uploaded in the new PLC. Proper function of the new PLC and program shall be tested using simulated inputs before being placed into service.

All other details for Pumping Plant No. 5 are the same as those presented in the second paragraph for Pumping Plant No. 3.

System Integration

The remote terminal units for the level monitoring sites and upgraded programmable logic controllers will be integrated into the District's existing supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system. The SCADA system is located at the District's Shop and is monitored by staff personnel at that location or remotely using their smart phones.

In addition to configuring all the RTUs, PLCs, and radio modems to communicate with the SCADA system, the system integration work also includes modifying existing screens on the SCADA displays and configuring appropriate notifications and alarms.

Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criterion A – Project Benefits

The Project will benefit the District's supply delivery system in four ways.

Reduce and/or Eliminate Spills at the End of the Relift and Third Lift Canals

The water level monitoring instrumentation will allow operations staff to monitor canal water levels in real time and improve the manual adjustment of gate settings to reduce and/or eliminate spills at the end of the canals.

The Relift Canal and Third Lift Canals have terminal reservoirs at the end of the canals to capture spill that occurs when the water pumped into the canal at the headworks exceeds turnout demands and canal losses. Downstream level control gates installed at check structures along the length of the canal regulate water levels in the pools downstream of each check structure. The water level in the pool upstream of the first check structure is regulated by the pumping plant serving the canal. While this system of water level control serves to maintain water levels along the canal, the distance and the substantial elevation drop of the canal precludes the pool elevation at the downstream end of the canal from influencing the pool level at the top of the canal which in turn controls the rate at which water is pumped into the canal. Operations staff must manually adjust upstream gates based on expected water demands and downstream pool levels.

In 2018, the District installed a SCADA system with level monitoring instrumentation at the end of the Relift Canal. The SCADA system also served to control Pumping Plant No. 17 which serves Lateral 46. Lateral 46 delivers water from the San Luis Canal into an intermediate point in the Relift Canal. This system allowed the District to automatically control a portion of the water introduced into the Relift Canal. This improvement in control resulted in water savings from a reduction in spill into the Relift Canal Terminal Reservoir.

There is no SCADA monitoring or control on the Third Lift Canal. By remotely monitoring the level at the end of the Third Lift Canal, occurrences of unrecoverable spill will be reduced or eliminated. Existing pre-project spills are assumed to occur twice per month during a five-month period of peak system operation with each spill event resulting in a loss of 4 acre-feet. Accordingly, the Project is estimated to conserve an estimated 40 acre-feet on an annual basis.

Reduce Electrical Usage through Optimized Pumping

The water level monitoring instrumentation will allow operations staff to optimize pumping operations between Pumping Plant No. 3 and Pumping Plant No. 17 to reduce energy usage.

When water deliveries were first made from the San Luis Canal into Improvement Districts No. 1 and 2, all water delivered through the Relift Canal was first lifted from the San Luis Canal at Milepost 92.16R into the canal headworks by Pumping Plant No. 3. In 2005, Pumping Plant No. 17 was constructed and Lateral 46 was modified to allow the pumping plant to also lift water from the San Luis Canal at Milepost 101.70R into the Relift Canal at a point 9.23 miles downstream from the canal headworks. The new facilities allowed the District to overcome capacity constraints and to reduce energy usage because the lift at Pumping Plant No. 17 is 22 feet less than the lift at Pumping Plant No. 3. It is energy efficient to maximize the use of Pumping Plant No. 17 to serve irrigation demands when feasible. Pumping Plant No. 17 can only serve irrigation demands on the lower reaches of the Relift Canal and pumping from Pumping Plant No. 3 is still needed to serve demands along the upper reaches of the canal.

Existing operations requires that staff pump more water into the headworks of the Relift Canal using Pumping Plant No. 3 than needed for upstream demands in order to ensure that sufficient water will be present throughout the day to satisfy water demands in the upstream reach of the Relift Canal and minimize physical observation of canal water levels.

Remote monitoring of canal water levels will allow staff to adjust gate settings to minimize the volume of excess water that is lifted by Pumping Plant No. 3 and maximize the utilization of Pumping Plant No. 17. The improved operations are expected to result in a shift of 1,964 acre-feet of pumping from Pumping Plant No. 3 to Pumping Plant No. 17. The corresponding annual energy savings resulting from this shift is 58,920 kilowatt-hours.

Energy savings are also expected from the reduction and/or elimination of 40 acre-feet of pumping from Pumping Plant No. 3 associated with spills into the Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal Terminal Reservoirs. These reductions are estimated to result in an annual energy savings of 8,840 kilowatt-hours. Overall, the Project is expected to result in an estimated annual energy savings of 67,760 kilowatt-hours.

Reduce Staff Travel and Increase Staff Productivity

The water level monitoring instrumentation and the programmable logic controller upgrades will allow staff to monitor operations remotely which will result in a reduction of employee travel and an increase in staff productivity.

Staff currently has to travel along the Third Lift Canal and the upper reach of the Relift Canal to make manual observations of canal water levels. Water level monitoring instrumentation has

been installed on the lower reach of the Relift Canal. The trip starts and ends at the District Shop and requires 45 miles of driving and 3 hours of time to complete. On a typical day, the trip will occur in the morning and the afternoon. The trip may be repeated one or two additional times per day during periods of high-water demand.

Installing the level monitoring instrumentation will allow staff to remotely monitor the water level in the Relift Canal and the Third Lift Canal and trips for monitoring purposes when no gate adjustments are required will be avoided. Trips to adjust downstream level control gates and to monitor and service other equipment such as moss screens will not be avoided. It is estimated that one trip per day will be avoided during a 300-day operating period or 300 trips in total.

The travel time reduction will result in a time savings of 900 hours annually, a vehicle travel reduction of 13,500 miles annually, and a fuel savings of 750 gallons of gasoline.

Decrease Response Time to Unexpected Operational Issues

The Project will allow staff to respond to unexpected operational issues quickly and in some circumstances remotely.

Presently, with the exception of the lower reach of the Relift Canal, there is no water level instrumentation and there is no means to receive notification of unexpected operational issues. Unexpected operational issues are discovered when staff is making patrol rounds and physically observes the issue. Installing canal level monitoring on these instrumented segments will allow staff to receive a notification of a low- or high-water level event instantly through a text message. For Relift Canal or Third Lift Canal operational issues, the response time will decrease from a period of few to several hours a period equivalent to the drive time to the affected area which is from 5 to 30 minutes.

The existing PLCs at Pumping Plants Nos. 3, 4 and 5 work in conjunction with a remote dialer to provide notification to operations staff of a general plant alarm for each facility. The remote dialer utilizes a programmable call list and will call a staff member and wait a prescribed amount of time for an alarm acknowledgement before calling the next staff member on the call list. The notification process can take a significant amount of time and will not occur if there are issues with the telephone line. Staff experience with the SCADA system monitoring Pumping Plant No. 17 has been favorable and the system provides rapid notification by text message when a general plant alarm occurs or there is a communications failure. For Pumping Plant Nos. 3, 4 or 5 operational issues, the response time will decrease from 60 minutes to 30 minutes.

Evaluation Criterion B – Planning Efforts Supporting the Project

The Project is supported by three existing plans and associated planning efforts.

San Luis Water District 2020 Water Management Plan

Every five years, the District prepares a Water Management Plan as required under the provision of the District's Water Service Contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. The Water Management Plan serves as a planning tool plan serves to achieve the highest level of water management using the best available, cost-effective technology and Best Management Practices (BMPs), and to implement water-use efficiency measures by their customers.

The Project is not specifically identified in the District's most recent Water Management Plan. It is anticipated that improvements to the District's SCADA system for the purpose of automating canal structures will be included in the District's 2025 Water Management Plan.

The Project will implement a goal and/or address a need or problem identified in the Water Management Plan. Best Management Practice B10 listed in the 2020 Water Management Plan involves the automation of canal structures and the Project will further the District's progress towards automating canal structures.

Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) is a collaborative effort initiated in 2002 by the State of California under the state's Regional Water Management Planning Act. IRWM is intended to identify and implement water management solutions on a regional scale that increase regional self-reliance, reduce conflict, and manage water to concurrently achieve social, environmental, and economic objectives. The approach developed under IRWM delivers higher value for investments by considering all interests, providing multiple benefits, and working across jurisdictional boundaries. Examples of multiple benefits include improved water quality, better flood management, restored and enhanced ecosystems, and more reliable surface and groundwater supplies. Each region collaboratively develops an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan outlining the needs, goals, and objectives of the region. Work towards the identified goals and objectives is accomplished through projects and activities identified in an adopted IRWM planning document. The San Luis Water District is a participant in the IRWM planning effort for the Westside Funding Area.

The Project is not specifically listed in the 2019 Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan because the planning document references a project submission tool for the IRWM planning area. The Project is included in the IRWM OPTI database, a planning tool that identifies projects that are included as a part of the IRWM Plan.

The Project addresses the following five the goals and objectives of the 2019 Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan:

- Objective A: Provide for more reliable water supply south of the Delta
- Objective B: Improve regional self-reliance for water through investment in water use efficiency, water recycling, advanced water technologies, local and regional water supply projects, and improved regional coordination of local and regional water supply efforts
- Objective F: Promote and enhance water conservation, water use efficiency, and sustainable water use
- Objective M: Minimize energy consumption and associated greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including use of renewable energy when appropriate
- Objective N: Promote projects that increase operational flexibilities and supply management tools

Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Plan

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act passed by the State of California in 2014 mandates that all groundwater basins achieve sustainability by the end of 2040. Each basin is

mandates to be covered by one or more groundwater sustainability agencies and adopt one or more groundwater sustainability plans. The San Luis Water District and the Project are located within the Delta-Mendota subbasin and within the planning area for the North Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The GSP identifies sustainability goals and measurable objectives for the plan area. In order to address critical overdraft, which is occurring within the Delta-Mendota subbasin, the GSP identifies a number of projects and management actions intended to improve groundwater sustainability and reduce (and by 2040 eliminate) undesirable impacts associated with groundwater extractions.

The Project is not specifically identified in the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The District is responsible for a number of projects listed in the GSP but the Project is not specifically identified in the GSP because of the limited water conservation benefits and only major sustainability projects are included in the plan. The water conservation benefits offered by the Project addresses plan objectives related to chronic lowering of groundwater elevations, groundwater storage, and subsidence.

Evaluation Criterion C – Implementation and Results

Describe the implementation plan for the proposed project. Please include an estimated project schedule that shows the stages and duration of the proposed work, including major tasks, milestones, and dates.

The implementation plan for the Project is rather straightforward. While no environmental or cultural resource compliance issues for the reasons discussed elsewhere in the application, a period of time has been allotted after the award date to verify that all environmental clearances have been obtained. During this time, the District will file a Notice of Exemption for the Project with the State Clearinghouse and the County of Merced, if it has not already filed such a notice in anticipation of the Project. Concurrent with the environmental compliance period, the District will prepare bid documents for the Project. Once the bid documents are prepared and environmental compliance has been verified, the District will solicit bids for the Project and award the Project. Issuance of the Notice of Proceed to the contractor serves as the milestone for completion of the bid and award phase of the Project.

The contractor will then prepare his design submittals for District review. Once the design submittals are reviewed and approved by the District, the contractor will procure all materials for the Project and construct panels that will be installed in the field. Once this work is complete, the field work phase of the Project will commence.

The contractor will install the sensors, panels, antennas, and mounting equipment in the field. At a point during installation, District staff will dewater the Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal for annual maintenance. Any work needed below the water line, which is expected to be minimal, can be performed after this time. Once all the equipment is installed and powered, the contractor will commence work on integrating the equipment into the District's existing SCADA system. Once the systems integration work is complete, the field work phase of the Project will be concluded.

The District will then perform testing of the system and provide a notice of acceptance to the contractor when appropriate. The contractor will then submit the final project billing and the District will submit final project reports and reimbursement requests to Reclamation to close out the Project. The start and end dates for the project tasks, along with the duration of each task, is provided in the Estimated Project Schedule table below.

Table 3. Estimated Project Schedule

Task or Milestone	Task Start or Milestone Date	Task End Date	Duration
<i>Anticipated Award Date</i>	3/31/2023		
Environmental Compliance	4/3/2023	5/26/2023	8 weeks
Prepare Bid Documents	4/3/2023	5/26/2023	8 weeks
Solicit Bids	5/29/2023	7/7/2023	6 weeks
Award Bid	7/10/23	7/14/23	1 week
<i>Notice to Proceed Issued to Contractor</i>	7/14/23		
Contractor to Prepare Design Submittals	7/17/23	9/8/23	8 weeks
Review of Design Submittals	9/11/23	9/15/23	1 week
Procurement and Shop Construction	9/18/23	11/10/23	8 weeks
<i>Start of Field Work</i>	11/13/23		
Field Construction and Installation	11/13/23	12/8/23	4 weeks
Relift and Third Lift Canal Dewatered	11/27/23	1/12/24	7 weeks
System Integration	1/15/24	1/26/24	2 weeks
<i>End of Field Work</i>	1/26/24		
Acceptance Testing	1/29/24	2/9/24	2 weeks
Project Closeout	2/12/24	2/23/24	2 weeks
<i>Estimated Completion Date</i>	2/23/24		

Describe any permits that will be required, along with the process for obtaining such permits.

The only permit that will be required for the Project is a modification of an existing radio license issued to the San Luis Water District by the Federal Communications Commission. The radio license is effectively a ministerial act and will be performed prior to the purchase of radio and antenna equipment.

Identify and describe any engineering or design work performed specifically in support of the proposed project.

The District has performed the engineering and design work to implement a SCADA system within the District. The SCADA system was installed in 2018 and, while limited in scope, is used extensively. This initial work allows the District to “add onto” the existing system and avoid expenditures associated with constructing a new SCADA system.

To support the Project and future SCADA installation in Improvement District No. 3, the District performed a radio signal survey early in 2022 to determine the radio and antenna needs for several locations throughout the District including those locations covered under the Project. This work was performed to confirm the feasibility of SCADA use at the remote locations and identify the appropriate radio and antenna equipment for each of the sites.

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

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

Describe the timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resources compliance. Was the timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resource compliance discussed with the local Reclamation office?

Work towards environmental and cultural resources compliance will commence immediately after the grant award date. The work required for NEPA compliance is anticipated to be minimal. Work to comply with cultural resource compliance will involve a submission under Section 106 to the State of California Office of Historic Preservation because of the age of the canals upon which minor improvements will take place.

The timeline for completion of environmental and cultural resource compliance discussed with Rain Emerson, Environmental Compliance Branch Chief, Interior Region 10 – California-Great Basin, South-Central California Area Office.

Evaluation Criterion D – Nexus to Reclamation

The Project has a substantial connect to a Reclamation project and Reclamation activities.

Does the applicant receive Reclamation project water?

The applicant, the San Luis Water District, receives Reclamation project water from the Central Valley Project through the Delta-Mendota Canal and the San Luis Canal under Water Service Contract No. 14-06-200-7773A-IR1-P. The Project involves improvements to SLWD facilities that lift Reclamation project water from the San Luis Canal downstream of the Dos Amigos Pumping Plant into Improvement District No. 1 Improvement District No. 2 within the San Luis Water District.

Is the project on Reclamation project lands or involving Reclamation facilities?

The Project is intended to improve facilities that serve water provided by Reclamation. The Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal were constructed to deliver Central Valley Project water to SLWD landowners and growers. Pumping Plant #3 is owned by Reclamation and operated by SLWD. Pumping Plant #3 and Pumping Plant #5 are owned and operated by SLWD. The electrical demands for Pumping Plant #3 are met by Project Use Energy provided by Reclamation.

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

The Project is located in the Central Valley of California which is the same basin served by Reclamation's Central Valley Project.

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

The water conserved by the Project will contribute water to the District which is within the basin where the Central Valley Project is located.

Evaluation Criterion E – Presidential and Department of Interior Priorities

Sub-criterion E1 – Climate Change

The Project will address the impacts of climate change and help combat the climate crisis by reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with the energy required to lift Central Valley Project water and the emissions associated with District operations staff traveling to make visual observations of canal water levels.

Using the Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator provided on the United States Environmental Protection Agency website (<https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>), the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions reduced by the Project were calculated. With regards to pumping, the Project is expected to result in an estimated annual energy savings of 67,760 kilowatt-hours which is equivalent to 48.0 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide equivalent. With regards to operator travel, the Project will result in an annual fuel savings of 750 gallons of gasoline which is equivalent to 6.7 metric tons of Carbon Dioxide equivalent. In total, the Project is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated 54.7 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.

The Project will also strengthen water supply sustainability to increase resilience to climate change by allowing for the conserved of an estimated 40 acre-feet of project water annually. The conserved water will likely result in a comparable reduction in groundwater extraction for irrigation purposes.

Sub-criterion E2 – Disadvantaged or Underserved Communities

The Project is located within Census Tract 6047002100. The State of California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment designates Census Tract 6047002100 as a Disadvantaged Community under the criteria provided by Senate Bill 535. Disadvantaged Communities under this criteria represent the 25% highest scoring census tracts in CalEnviroScreen 3.0, along with other areas with high amounts of pollution and low populations. For additional details on the designation, please refer to <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/sb535>.

The location and area served by the Project is also designated both as a Disadvantaged Community and a Low-income Community by the California Air Resources Board using the criteria provided in Assembly Bill 1550. Low-income communities and households are defined as the census tracts and households, respectively, that are either at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income, or at or below the threshold designated by the California Department of Housing and Community Development's 2016 State Income Limits. For additional details on the designation, please refer to <https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/PriorityPopulations/>.

Sub-criterion E3 – Tribal Benefits

The Project does not serve any Tribal lands and does not claim any Tribal benefits.

Overlap or Duplication of Effort Statement

There is no overlap between the Project and any other active or anticipated proposals or projects in terms of activities, costs, or commitment of key personnel. The proposal submitted for consideration under the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant Program does not in any way duplicate any proposal or project that has been or will be submitted for funding consideration to any other potential funding source whether it be Federal or non-Federal. If at any time this proposal is awarded funds that would be duplicative of the funding requested from Reclamation, the District will notify the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) point of contact or the Program Coordinator immediately.

Project Budget

Funding Plan and Letters of Funding Commitment

The total cost for the Project is \$222,750. The source of funding for the Project will Federal funding provided through this grant application and Non-Federal funding provided by the San Luis Water District. The District typically funds capital improvement projects from the District's Improvement District No. 1 and Improvement District No. 2 reserve accounts. These accounts have balances of \$3.7 million and \$2.0 million as of March 31, 2022. The District has committed to funding the Project as provided in Board of Directors Resolution included later in this application.

There will be no source of Non-federal funding for the Project other than the applicant and no Letters of Funding Commitment from third parties are included in this application.

The table below summarizes the funding amounts by source.

Table 4: Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources

Funding Source Description	Percentage	Amount
Requested Federal funding	44.9 %	\$ 100,000
Non-federal Funding - San Luis Water District	55.1 %	122,750
Value of third-party contributions	0.0 %	0
TOTAL FUNDING	100.0 %	\$ 222,750

Budget Proposal

The budget proposal for the application is provided in the table below. The District is not requesting any pre-award costs.

Table 5: Budget Proposal

Budget Item Description	Computation		Quantity Type	Total Cost
	\$/Unit	Quantity		
<i>Salaries and Wages</i>				
No expense reimbursement requested.				
<i>Fringe Benefits</i>				
No expense reimbursement requested.				
<i>Travel</i>				
No expense reimbursement requested.				
<i>Equipment</i>				
No expense reimbursement requested.				
<i>Materials and Supplies</i>				
No expense reimbursement requested.				
<i>Contractual</i>				
Electrical Service to RLC Check 4	14,800	1	each	\$ 14,800
System Design Engineering	20,000	1	each	10,000
RLC Check 4 Monitoring Station	31,400	1	each	26,400
TLC Check 1 Monitoring Station	30,400	1	each	25,400
TLC Check 5 Monitoring Station	32,800	1	each	27,800
Pumping Plant 3 PLC Replacement	23,300	1	each	33,300
Pumping Plant 4 PLC Replacement	20,900	1	each	30,900
Pumping Plant 5 PLC Replacement	20,900	1	each	30,900
System Integration	22,500	1	each	12,500
Subtotal – Contractual				\$ 212,000
<i>Third Party In-Kind Contributions</i>				
No expense reimbursement requested.				
<i>Environmental and Regulatory</i>				
Environmental/Cultural/NEPA	10,000	1	each	\$ 10,000
Filing Fees/CEQA	500	1	each	500
Radio License Modification	250	1	each	250
Subtotal – Environmental and Regulatory				\$ 10,750
<i>Other Expenses</i>				
No expense reimbursement requested.				
PROJECT TOTAL COST				\$ 222,750

Budget Narrative

Following is a narrative providing detail about each of the budget item categories and budget items where applicable.

Salaries and Wages

The District is not requesting reimbursement for using its in-kind services, i.e., labor or equipment, as cost share.

Fringe Benefits

The District is not requesting reimbursement for fringe benefits associated with District salaries and wages.

Travel

Travel related expenses are not eligible for reimbursement and are not included within the proposed budget.

Equipment

The District is not requesting reimbursement for the use of its own equipment.

Materials and Supplies

The District is not requesting reimbursement for materials and supplies. All materials and supplies will be furnished and installed under a contract and the materials or supplies are identified as a contractual cost in the budget proposal.

Contractual

The District will competitively bid and award the work associated with the monitoring stations and PLC replacements. Line items shown in the Budget Proposal correspond to items that will be included in the competitive bid schedule. The District will contract with the local utility, Pacific Gas & Electric, to install the electrical service under the appropriate established tariff.

Third-Party In-Kind Contributions

No work will be accomplished by third-party contributors.

Environmental and Regulatory Costs

The District has included \$10,000 for environmental and regulatory compliance performed by Reclamation, or a consultant if necessary. Based on prior similar efforts, the District estimated costs for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

Other Expenses

The District is not requesting reimbursement for other expenses.

Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

The Project is intended to improve facilities that serve water provided by Reclamation. The Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal were constructed to deliver Central Valley Project water to SLWD landowners and growers. Pumping Plant No. 3 is owned by Reclamation and operated by SLWD. Pumping Plant No. 4 and Pumping Plant No. 5 are owned and operated by SLWD. The electrical demands for all three pumping plants are met by Project Use Energy provided by Reclamation.

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 task to install level monitoring stations will require the excavation of one or two small holes, six- to eight inches in diameter and approximately two feet in depth at each of the three monitoring locations. The post holes will be located adjacent to existing concrete check structures and electrical equipment. The holes will also be adjacent to the canal within its alignment and right-of-way. Other than these minor excavations, no other earth-disturbing work will occur as a part of this task.

The task to upgrade the programmable logic controllers at the three pumping plants will occur within an existing electrical enclosure. The task to integrate the level monitoring stations and the PLC upgrades will be performed at the District Shop office. These two tasks will not involve earth-disturbing work.

Given that the soil disturbance for the Project is minimal and there are no impacts to air, water, and animal habitat, the Project will not adversely impact the surrounding environment.

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.

There are species listed, species proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, and/or designated critical habitat in the Project area. These species will not be affected by any activities associated with the Project given the nature of the work and the minor ground disturbance involved (i.e. single post hole for mounting enclosure and antenna at each monitoring site).

Are there any 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.

There are no wetlands or other surface waters inside the Project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as "Waters of the United States".

When was the water delivery system constructed?

The Relift Canal was constructed around 1960. The Third Lift Canal and Pumping Plant Nos. 3, 4 and 5 were constructed in 1979 or 1980.

Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to individual features of an irrigation system (e.g, headgates, canals, 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 Project will result in a minor alteration to individual features of an irrigation systems that was constructed in 1979 or 1980. Low voltage electrical equipment contained in a small enclosure will be installed on or adjacent to three canal check structures. The concrete structures or appurtenant gates, gate operators, rails, or other appurtenant metal structures will not be physically altered.

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

There are no buildings, structures, or features at or near the Project location that are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Delta-Mendota Canal and the California Aqueduct are located within the District and may be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places based on prior evaluations by other Reclamation efforts.

Are there any known archeological sites in the project area?

There are no known archeological sites in the Project area.

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

The Project is intended to conserve water, reduce energy usage, and improve District operations. The Project will also result in a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. Accordingly, the Project will provide minor benefits to a neighboring disadvantaged community and will not have a any adverse effect on low income or minority populations.

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

There are no known Indian sacred sites or tribal lands near the project location. The construction involved in the project is minor and will not limit access to lands or property of any type. Therefore, the Project will not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts to tribal lands.

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 Project does not involve the removal or relocation of vegetation of any type. The earth-disturbing activities involved with the Project are minimal and the relocation of noxious weeds associated with that activity is highly unlikely. Therefore, the Project will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species.

Required Permits or Approvals

The use of certain radio frequencies, signal types, and power levels is regulated by the Federal Communications Commission and a license is required to operate at certain frequencies, signal types, and power levels. The San Luis Water District obtained a license in 2018 to operate its existing SCADA network. The District's call sign is WRAU927, its assigned frequency is 451.45 MHz, and output power is 5 watts. The District has completed a radio survey and evaluation to prepare for the Project and the evaluation has identified that the District's existing frequency and power levels are suitable for the new locations. The District will modify its license accordingly to operate at the new locations.

Other than approval by the Federal Communications Commission and the CEQA and NEPA approvals discussed elsewhere in this application, the District is not aware of any other required permits or approvals needed for the Project.

Letters of Support for the Project

The District received letters in support of the Project from the following agencies:

- Grasslands Water District
- Santa Nella County Water District

Copies of the letters of support follow this page.

P.O. Box 2118 · 200 W. Willmott Avenue
Los Banos, CA 93635



(209) 826-5188
Fax (209) 826-4984
Email: veronica@gwdwater.org

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Treasurer/Controller

Ellen Wehr
General Counsel

April 25, 2022

San Luis Water District
Attn: Lon Martin, General Manager
P.O. Box 2135
Los Banos, CA 93635-2135

Re: Letter of Support
San Luis Water District – WaterSMART Grant Application
Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal Monitoring

Dear Mr. Martin:

The Grassland Water District (GWD) supports the San Luis Water District (SLWD) in their pursuit of a WaterSMART grant from the United States Bureau of Reclamation for the installation of water level monitoring stations along their Relift and Third Lift Canals in western Merced and Fresno County. The installation of the monitoring stations and related controls upgrades will help SLWD conserve water, reduce energy usage, and improve operational efficiencies.

GWD recognizes the importance of sound water management and water use efficiency projects and the significant role they play in conserving the local water supply. GWD and the SLWD have a long history of working together on water management projects and programs aimed at better managing water supplies in the area. GWD strongly encourages the Bureau of Reclamation to support the funding of SLWD's project in their pursuit of better water management and water use efficiency.

Sincerely,

Ric Ortega
General Manager



Santa Nella County Water District

12931 State Highway 33 • Santa Nella, CA 95322
PH: (209) 826-0920 • FAX: (209) 826-8359

April 25, 2022

San Luis Water District
Attn: Lon Martin, General Manager
P.O. Box 2135
Los Banos, CA 93635-2135

Re: Letter of Support
San Luis Water District – WaterSMART Grant Application
Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal Monitoring

Dear Mr. Martin:

The Santa Nella County Water District (SNCWD) supports the San Luis Water District (SLWD) in their pursuit of a WaterSMART grant from the United States Bureau of Reclamation for the installation of water level monitoring stations along their Relift and Third Lift Canals in western Merced and Fresno County. The installation of the monitoring stations and related controls upgrades will help SLWD conserve water, reduce energy usage, and improve operational efficiencies.

The SNCWD recognizes the importance of sound water management and water use efficiency projects and the significant role they play in conserving the local water supply. The SNCWD and the SLWD have a long history of working together on water management projects and programs aimed at better managing water supplies in the area. The SNCWD strongly encourages the Bureau of Reclamation to support the funding of SLWD's project in their pursuit of better water management and water use efficiency.

Sincerely,

Amy Montgomery
General Manager

RESOLUTION NO. 22-1261

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SAN LUIS WATER DISTRICT
SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF A WATERSMART GRANT, VERIFYING
FINANCIAL ABILITY AND INTENT TO PROVIDE MATCHING FUNDS, IF
AWARDED, AND CONFIRMING INTENT TO WORK WITH RECLAMATION TO
MEET ESTABLISHED DEADLINES TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE
AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, has announced the WaterSMART Grants for Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects for Fiscal Year 2022 to provide financial assistance to eligible applicants; and

WHEREAS, the District, an eligible applicant, has identified a project entitled the Relift Canal and Third Lift Canal Monitoring Project ("Project") to monitor canal water levels and pumping plant operations using the District's existing Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system; and

WHEREAS, the Project will result in benefits to the District through water conservation, reduced electrical usage, and increased staff productivity; and

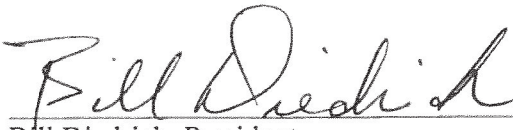
WHEREAS, the District has included sufficient funding in its adopted Fiscal Year 2022 budget for Improvement District Nos. 1 and 2.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the San Luis Water District as follows:

1. The facts set forth in the recitals above are true and correct and the Board so finds and determines.
2. The Board of Directors has reviewed the application and supports the submittal of the application to the Bureau of Reclamation for funding under a WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant for FY 2022.
3. The San Luis Water District is capable of providing the required funding and any in-kind contributions specified in the funding plan included in the application.
4. The General Manager of the District hereby authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, sign, and file such application with the Bureau of Reclamation, and if the application is selected for funding, is further authorized to enter into an agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation.
5. If selected for a WaterSMART Small-Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant, the applicant will work with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.


PASSED AND ADOPTED this 29th day of March, 2022, by the Board of Directors of the San Luis Water District, by the following vote:

<u>VOTE:</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
President Diedrich	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Director Coit	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Director Maring	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Director Teixeira	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Director Wood	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>



Bill Diedrich, President

Attest:



Tom Teixeira, Secretary

Attachment: Exhibit A – Grant Application Summary