



Water Commission Gives Low Score to Temperance Flat Dam, Future of Project is Uncertain

By: Bailey Miller

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FRESNO, Calif. -- There has been another hit to the Temperance Flat project.

"Somehow we can't seem to measure up to the Water Commission staff," said Mario Santoyo, Executive Director of the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority.

The California Water Commission gave it another low public benefit ratio score. On Friday, the commission responded the San Joaquin Valley Water infrastructure authority's appeal on their first score.

The first rating was .10. It has now been increased to .38.

That increased number is still not enough, one full point is needed for the application to advance.

"The water commission staff has a bias in terms of not wanting to build big reservoir, said Santoyo.

The project would dam the San Joaquin River and allow 1.3 million acre feet of new storage space above Millerton Lake.

The authority has been asking for about \$1 billion in Prop One funding. With the current public benefit ratio of 0.38, the project would only be eligible for of \$177 million.

"This is a slap in the face to everyone in the San Joaquin Valley," said Buddy Mendes, Fresno County Supervisor.

Fresno County Supervisor Buddy Mendes says is not acceptable because we need this project to save water during drought years.

Regardless of the score, Mendes and Santoyo say they are confident this project will move forward.

The San Joaquin infrastructure authorities said they have one more shot to change this score.

They will meet with the Water Commission on May 1st through the 3rd.

<http://www.yourcentralvalley.com/news/water-commission-gives-low-score-to-temperance-flat-dam-future-of-project-is-uncertain/1132235161>

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