



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

**JAN 12 2020**

The Honorable Tom McClintock  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Water  
Oceans, and Wildlife  
Committee on Natural Resources  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member McClintock:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) for the Shasta Lake Water Resources Investigation (SLWRI). As you may recall, the Final Feasibility Report was prepared under the authority of Public Law 96-375; the Reclamation Project Act of 1939; and Public Law 108-361, the CALFED Bay-Delta Authorization Act of 2004, and was transmitted to Congress via letter dated July 29, 2015 along with the 2015 SLWRI Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). This FSEIS is being submitted to Congress in accordance with Section 404(r) of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and pursuant to the permitting requirements of the CWA.

Reclamation determined that it was appropriate and necessary to provide supplemental analysis in order to proceed with the SLWRI under the authority of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (P.L. 114-322), Section 4007. The subsequent analysis and public comment period have been completed. Reclamation also determined that the SLWRI was appropriate for the application of Section 404(r) of the CWA, and included additional analysis relevant to CWA 404(b)(1) guidelines, as well as responding to issues identified by United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the 2015 FEIS. EPA has agreed that the FSEIS satisfies the 404(b)(1) guidelines. This FSEIS supplements and updates information relevant to environmental concerns and updates operations modeling to the latest regulatory requirements.

The Secretary was authorized under the previously mentioned statutes to conduct feasibility studies relating to the raising of Shasta Dam and enlarging the Reservoir, consistent with the Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Land Resources Implementation Studies, and using the CALFED Bay-Delta Programmatic Record of Decision as a general framework. Previously, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reviewed this report and their conclusion was included with the previous transmittal. OMB did not object to its transmittal to Congress, subject to the

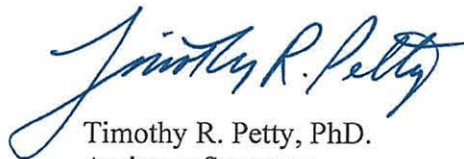
understanding, should the Congress authorize a project based on this report, the project would need to compete with other proposed investments in future budgets.

Shasta Dam creates the largest reservoir and sits at the top of the water system in Reclamation's Central Valley Project (CVP). The CVP extends over 400 miles south of Shasta Lake through California's Central Valley, providing water for more than three million acres of farmland, nearly six million people, and critical fish and wildlife species. Reliable water is critical to the economic progress of the region – and our nation – as more than 40% of the country's fruits, nuts and vegetables are grown in the Central Valley, largely using water from the CVP. The dedicated environmental storage from the increased reservoir capacity would improve water quality in the Sacramento River below the dam by lowering water temperatures for anadromous fish survival, such as Chinook salmon and other fish that migrate from the ocean to rivers to spawn. Not only will the Shasta Dam Raise project benefit farms, communities and the environment, it will provide ample opportunities for smarter water management.

Due to the size of the documents, we are making them available to you electronically for download at the following website: [www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa\\_project\\_details.php?Project\\_ID=1915](http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa_project_details.php?Project_ID=1915)

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Mr. Richard Welsh, Principal Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Reclamation, California Great Basin Region, at (916) 978-5000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy R. Petty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T".

Timothy R. Petty, PhD.  
Assistant Secretary  
for Water and Science

Identical Letter Sent To:

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on  
Energy and Water Development  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur  
Chair, Subcommittee on  
Energy and Water Development, and  
Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael Simpson  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on  
Energy and Water Development, and  
Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
Chair, Committee on Energy and  
Natural Resources  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Raúl M. Grijalva  
Chair, Committee on Natural Resources  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bruce Westerman  
Ranking Member, Committee on Natural  
Resources  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman  
Chair, Subcommittee on Water,  
Oceans, and Wildlife  
Committee on Natural Resources  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom McClintock  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Water  
Oceans, and Wildlife  
Committee on Natural Resources  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Manchin  
Ranking Member, Committee on Energy  
and Natural Resources  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on  
Water and Power  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Subcommittee on Water and Power  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510