

February 9, 2026

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump:

We are writing to let you know of the critical importance of, and our strong support for, completing the Shasta Dam enlargement project and to urge you to fulfill your Administration's commitment to this effort by allocating the funding from the One Big Beautiful Bill to advance the project.

Your dedication to restoring common sense to water use is unparalleled.

We represent the broad constituent and stakeholder groups that are working hard to keep this agricultural heartland of America running. We are families, communities, and stakeholders that support the backbone of American food production in the Central Valley, generating over \$50 billion annually and feeding people across the country.

Our families and communities have watched as water that could irrigate crops to feed America has been diverted away from productive farmland. We have endured drought restrictions, reduced allocations, and the heartbreak of seeing fertile fields turned to dust while bureaucrats prioritized supposed regulatory compliance over food production and rural prosperity.

Your support and the critical actions that your Administration has taken in past with regard to this project have put your Administration in the position to make Shasta Dam enlargement a reality. In 2020, under your leadership, your administration moved forward with the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Shasta enlargement, demonstrating federal commitment to this critical project and laying the groundwork for the most cost-effective water storage project available to California. Your administration also provided \$20 million for Shasta pre-construction planning, completed biological opinions that increased water deliveries, and championed the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act that made federal cost-sharing for this project possible.

You have put all of the pieces in place, and with appropriate OBBB investment in Shasta Dam enlargement, you will meet a once-in-a-generation opportunity to deliver the water storage our communities desperately need and create economic stability for the farms, workers, and rural communities in the Central Valley. Raising Shasta Dam just 18.5 feet will create significant new storage capacity that will increase water supply reliability in drought years; reduce regulatory restrictions through improved cold-water pools for fish; and create food security for America through sustained agricultural production.

This project is also good for America, putting American families, American farmers, and American food production first.

We understand that efforts will soon begin on final budget decisions for the next Fiscal Year. We respectfully, and urgently, request that you direct the Office of Management and Budget to allocate the OBBB funding necessary to advance and complete the Shasta Dam enlargement, instruct the Bureau of Reclamation to finalize the Record of Decision for the project without delay, and streamline the necessary federal permitting processes to begin construction activities as quickly as possible.

Your efforts to advance this critical storage project to conclusion will ensure that the benefits to Central Valley farms and American tables will be felt for generations to come.

Thank you for championing these efforts and for your continued support of the California water infrastructure that supports our communities and keeps food on American tables.

Sincerely,

William Bourdeau
CEO
California Water Alliance

Jeremy Hughes
Farmer
Jeremy Hughes Farms

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President and CEO
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cc:

The Honorable Doug Burgum
Secretary of the Interior

The Honorable Russell Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget

Members of the California Congressional Delegation