

October 7, 2025

Board of Directors

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority P.O. Box 2157 Los Banos, CA 93635

Subject: Request for Assistance and Access to Federal Water Supplies

Dear Members of the Board,

On behalf of the Western Hills Water District (WHWD), I write to respectfully request the assistance and consideration of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) in addressing our District's worsening water supply crisis.

Western Hills Water District is a California Special District established to provide safe and reliable water service to our community within the Diablo Grande area of Stanislaus County. In recent years, the District has experienced significant challenges in securing sustainable water supplies to meet both residential and environmental needs. Our contracted allocations have become increasingly uncertain, and recent communications with our water supplier Kern County Water Agency have placed the District in a precarious position that threatens our ability to maintain service to the community.

In light of these circumstances, WHWD is seeking SLDMWA's guidance and potential access to available **Federal Water supplies** through any legally permissible mechanism, such as a transfer, exchange, or supply arrangement. We understand the complexities surrounding Central Valley Project allocations and the constraints under Federal and State law; nonetheless, we believe collaboration and innovative solutions through your Authority may provide a viable pathway toward short-term stabilization and long-term reliability.

Our Board is fully committed to transparency, compliance, and partnership in any process the Authority may deem appropriate. We request to meet with your staff and discuss potential options, including participation in regional planning efforts, conveyance arrangements, or cooperative management strategies that align with SLDMWA's operational and environmental responsibilities.

We deeply appreciate the critical role that the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority plays in ensuring equitable and sustainable water management across the region. We are hopeful that with your guidance, Western Hills Water District can find a path forward that protects our ratepayers, supports regional water balance, and honors the shared principles of stewardship that define California's water community.

Thank you for your time, attention, and consideration of this request. We look forward to the opportunity to meet and explore possible solutions together.

Respectfully,

Mark Kovich Board President

Cc: Sophia Garcia – Office of Congressman Adam Gray

John Lemmo – WHWD District Counsel Colin Pearce – WHWD Special Counsel