

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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July 26, 2016

State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Rights Attn: Kathryn Gaffney P.O. Box 2000 Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Re: Water Right Application 5634X01 - Project Update

Dear Ms. Gaffney:

Pursuant to Water Code section 1275 and your acceptance letter of application number 5634X01, this letter is to update you on the Lead Agency's progress in preparing the appropriate environmental document. The Nevada Irrigation District (NID) will be the Lead Agency for this project.

- The Notice of Preparation comment has ended. The comment period was from February 16, 2016 to April 18, 2016. There were two evening scoping meetings for the public to attend.
- NID has continued working with HDR, our environmental consultant, developing the project description, project alternatives.
- Biological/archeological surveys have been ongoing for the past two months. A UAIC member is one of the field crews conducting the surveys.
- NID is still anticipating having the draft EIR out for public review in early 2017.
- AB 52 consultation with United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC) is ongoing. NID and UAIC representatives conducted another meeting on June 1, 2016.
- NID is continuing to work with USACE. The application for a 404 individual permit has
 been submitted and accepted. USACE approved the third party contractor list submitted
 by NID. NID is currently reviewing RFPs from the approved third party contractor to
 complete the EIS. NID expects to submit preferred consultant scope to USACE by first
 week of August. Once contract with USACE is signed, development of NOI will begin.

- The preliminary geotechnical and feasibility study is ongoing. Phase III investigation is wrapping up field work/drilling. Subsurface exploration work including seismic refraction surveys and exploratory borings were conducted in two potential borrow areas and at Axis 2.
- As stated previously, NID has completed a Lidar/topographic survey of the area and has
 developed the unimpaired hydrology model for the Bear River and some various
 operational models. NID has had several meetings with South Sutter Water District
 representatives regarding the hydrology and modeling scenarios.
- The project website address is <u>www.centennialreservoir.org</u>

If you have any questions or need, any further assistance, please to not hesitate to contact me at 530-271-6866 or email me at roderick@nidwater.com.

Sincerely,

Doug Roderick, P.E. Senior Engineer