

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-

**RESOLUTION APPROVING CONTINUATION AND MODIFICATION OF THE
GRASSLAND BYPASS PROJECT (LONG-TERM STORM WATER
MANAGEMENT PLAN 2020-2045)**

WHEREAS, the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (Authority), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), prepared that certain Grassland Bypass Project (GBP) 2010-2019 Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report, Final August 2009 (2009 Final EIS/EIR), in cooperation with the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), the Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

WHEREAS, after compliance with CEQA for the GBP, the Authority authorized execution of that certain First Amended and Restated Grassland Basin Drainage Management Activity Agreement between the Authority and certain of its member agencies, by means of which a regional drainage entity was formed to implement the GBP to manage subsurface drainage within the Grassland Drainage Area.

WHEREAS, since 1996, the Authority has entered into a continuous series of agreements with Reclamation authorizing the Authority to use a portion of the San Luis Drain to convey agricultural drainwater around adjacent wildlife management areas to Mud Slough, a tributary of the San Joaquin River.

WHEREAS, the current agreement for use of the San Luis Drain is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2019.

WHEREAS, the proposed action is continuation and minor modification of the GBP through adoption of the Long-Term Storm Water Management Plan 2020-2045, to allow continued use of the San Luis Drain at its current capacity (150 cfs) combined with use of existing and new short-term storage basins to reduce storm-induced discharges to Mud Slough (North) in the San Luis National Wildlife Refuge and the California Fish and Wildlife Service China Island Refuge. The proposed action makes refinements to the previously analyzed GBP and includes measures to address the capacity limitations of the Grassland Bypass Channel and San Luis Drain, storm event frequency and magnitude, and available storm water management tools to minimize discharges. It also enhances existing facilities including securing ownership of land for purposes of the San Joaquin River Water Quality Improvement Project, new pump/conveyance systems, additional storage basins, and a remote shut-off system for operation of tile sumps throughout the Grassland Drainage Area.

WHEREAS, none of the conditions described in Public Resources Code section 21166 and CEQA Guidelines sections 15162 and 15163 has occurred since certification of the 2009 Final EIS/EIR. Continued implementation and refinement of the GBP through the proposed action will not result in one or more significant effects not

discussed in the 2009 Final EIS/EIR, nor will the proposed action create substantially more severe significant effects than previously examined in the 2009 Final EIS/EIR, nor has any other event occurred as to trigger subsequent or supplemental environmental CEQA review.

WHEREAS, the Authority as Lead Agency under CEQA prepared an Initial Study and accompanying technical reports to evaluate the proposed modifications to the GBP, which confirmed that the prior CEQA analyses retain their relevance; that the 2009 Final EIS/EIR fully analyzed and mitigated, where feasible, all potentially significant environmental impacts, if any, that would result from the modified GBP; and that none of the conditions described in CEQA Guidelines sections 15162 and 15163 or Public Resources Code section 21166 have occurred as a result of the proposed modifications, such that an Addendum to the 2009 Final EIS/EIR was prepared pursuant to section 15164 of the CEQA Guidelines.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Declaration of Board. The Board hereby specifically finds and declares that the statements, findings, and determinations of the Authority set forth in the recitals above are true and correct.

Section 2. Adoption of the Long-Term Storm Water Management Plan 2020-2045. The Board hereby adopts the Long-Term Storm Water Management Plan 2020-2045 and approves the modifications to the Grassland Bypass Project as both are described in the Initial Study and Addendum to the 2009 Final EIS/EIR.

Section 3. Authorization to Execute the GBD Agreement for Continued Use of the San Luis Drain for the Period January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2045. The Board hereby authorizes the Executive Director and the Assistant Executive Director to negotiate and execute the Use Agreement subject to such additions, deletions and revisions as the executive officers may require or approve prior to execution.

Section 4. Additional Actions. The Executive Director and any Authority employee or consultant as he shall designate are further authorized to take such additional actions, including the execution of such additional documents, as may be reasonably necessary to perform under the Use Agreement and Long-Term Storm Water Management Plan 2020-2045.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ___th day of October, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

CANNON MICHAEL, Chairman
SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY

Attest:

FEDERICO BARAJAS, SECRETARY

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I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2019-__ was duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority at the meeting thereof held on the __th day of October, 2019.

Federico Barajas, Secretary