

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY - RANKING MEMBER SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate July 25, 2018

Irene Hoiby
Grants Management Specialist
Bureau of Reclamation
Financial Assistance Support Section
Denver Federal Center
P.O. Box 25007
Denver, CO 80225

Dear Irene.

I write in support of the City of Antioch's application for funding from the WaterSMART Desalination Construction Projects grant program, administered through the United States Bureau of Reclamation.

The City of Antioch is requesting funding to construct, operate, and maintain a desalination plant capable of producing six million gallons of desalinated water each day. The project would replace the current San Joaquin River intake pump system and provide the City of Antioch the capability to treat brackish raw water at the City's existing water treatment plant. Under present circumstances, the City must purchase water from the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) for approximately five to six months each year due to high chloride levels in the San Joaquin River. This new supply of desalinated water will offset the use of purchased supplies and reduce the general demand on the CCWD, freeing up more of the district's water supply for other communities within Contra Costa County.

Implementation of the project will also benefit the region economically. By taking advantage of existing resources, including water rights and infrastructure, the City of Antioch is taking an innovative and thoughtful approach to providing quality drinking water. Producing desalinated water from the new plant will also be less expensive than purchasing the same amount of water from CCWD, providing a more cost-effective solution to Antioch taxpayers.

I urge you to give the City of Antioch's application your full consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my San Francisco office at (415) 393-0707.

Sincerely,

Dianne Feinstein United States Senator