

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 27, 2018

Brenda Burman
Commissioner
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
1849 C Street NW, Suite 7564
Washington, DC 20240

RE: WaterSMART Grant Application for the Antioch Brackish Water Desalination Project

Dear Commissioner Burman:

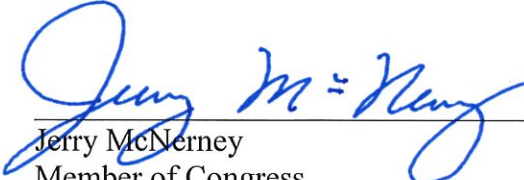
We write regarding the City of Antioch's application for the WaterSMART: Desalination Construction Projects Under the WIIN Act Grant to construct, operate, and maintain a desalination facility. We request your full and fair consideration of the City of Antioch's grant application.


This grant will allow the City of Antioch to replace the existing San Joaquin River intake pump station. The new plant will provide the capability to treat brackish raw water at Antioch's existing water treatment plant. Currently, Antioch is unable to utilize its pre-1914 water rights to the river for approximately 5-6 months of the year because of high chloride levels within the water. When the chloride levels of the river water exceed 75 mg/L, Antioch must purchase water from the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) to meet service demands. The City has advised that the desalination plant outlined in this project can produce up to 6 million gallons of desalinated product water per day, which would offset the City's use of purchased water and reduce the demand on CCWD. Furthermore, it is our understanding is that the per acre-foot cost for this project is less expensive than purchasing water from CCWD, which will result in lower fees for Antioch residents.

The new desalination plant will use innovative technology, specifically a two-stage reverse osmosis system and brine conveyance facilities, to take advantage of natural water supplies and capitalize on the existing water treatment plant infrastructure. The project calls for the desalination facility to be fully online by September 2021 and designed to operate indefinitely with standard renewal and replacement of vital equipment over the years.

We encourage you to provide the City of Antioch's grant application every consideration consistent with applicable rules and regulations. Thank you for your attention to this request. We look forward to working with you to address the needs of our country.

Sincerely,


Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress


Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress