

**1. When did the Sites Reservoir Project team submit their Water Right Application to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) for review and consideration?**

The Sites Project Authority completed the application and submitted it to the State Board on May 11, 2022.

**2. Was the application accepted? Can an application be accepted yet ask for additional information?**

Yes, and yes. On August 26, 2022, the Authority received a letter from the State Board indicating that the State Board had accepted the application and determined the application needed additional information prior to noticing.

It is important to remember that the process for receiving a water right permit requires careful analysis and deliberate consideration. There are a number of steps in the process, all of which are appropriately open and transparent to the public. There will be several instances of back and forth between the Authority, its staff and the State Board.

**3. Is it common for the State Board to request additional information when reviewing project applications?**

Yes. A finding of incomplete on any water right application is not unusual. In fact, we're not aware of any applications receiving a finding of sufficiency on the first submittal. Some applications take years to be found complete.

**4. Do any of the additional requests pose a serious threat to the Project? Are you concerned the Project may not be approved by the State Board?**

No, we will respond to the State Board's request and are confident that we will provide the information needed to secure the water right permit. We anticipated this information might be requested and have already begun a review of this matter in earnest.

**5. How long will it take to provide the additional information request by the State Board?**

The State Board's letter requests a response within 60 days, and we anticipate meeting this timeframe.

**6. Will you be able to demonstrate the likelihood that there is available, unappropriated water on the Sacramento River that can/will be available to divert and store in the Sites Reservoir?**

Yes, we conducted four different analyses to determine water available for the Project. These analyses demonstrate there is a reasonable likelihood of water being available to support the Project. In fact, the average annual estimated quantities of available water exceed the Project's average annual needs by 3 to almost 4.5 times, across the four analyses, based on highly conservative methodologies in analyzing the data AND after considering the effects of a changing climate in the future.

**7. Do you feel confident you will be able to address the additional questions the State Board asked of the Project in their August 26 letter?**

Yes. The water right application and evaluation process are beneficial to all in that it allows for a public vetting of benefits and impacts in a water availability context. In particular, having this additional information in the record should help to alleviate concerns and speed up the process later.

