Monterey County Water Resources Agency

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June 12, 2025

The Honorable Senator Alex Padilla
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: SUPPORT for the Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs Safety Project

Dear Senator,

On behalf of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency, and the hundreds of thousands of Californians dependent upon the function and safety of our dams, I write to express our appreciation for your selection of the Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs Safety Project for further consideration in connection with the FY26 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) Appropriations Bill.

The Nacimiento and San Antonio Dams and Reservoirs have served the California Central Coast well for decades, providing important flood management, water storage, habitat management, and recreational opportunities, but their reach extends throughout the nation. Stormwater stored in the winter not only reduces the impact of flooding, thereby reducing the potential burden of state and federal disaster response, but also provides for groundwater recharge that supports agricultural production through most of the Salinas Valley, which is the paramount producer of much of the nation's healthy, safe, and affordable fruits and vegetables.

We very much appreciate your selection and support for this important project and standby to assist how we can in your future endeavors to advance the critical THUD Appropriations Bill. If you or your staff should care for a tour of our facilities and service area, or would care to discuss a water resource management issues, please always feel free to contact me directly. In the meantime, be well.

Respectfully,

Ara Azhderian

CC: Christopher Lopez, Chair, Monterey County Water Resources Agency
    The Honorable Adam Schiff, U.S. Senator for California
    The Honorable Zoe Lofgren, U.S. Congresswoman
    The Honorable Jimmy Panetta, U.S. Representative

The Water Resources Agency manages water resources sustainably,
while minimizing impacts from flooding, for present and future generations.