



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



February 27, 2025

Via email

c/o daniel_gustafson@ios.doi.gov

The Honorable Doug Burgum
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

RE: Support for continuity of the Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region Regional Office

Dear Secretary Burgum:

On behalf of the three water agencies that collectively serve more than 27 million Americans in the West, we are writing to urge the continuity of staff and responsibilities at the Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region's Regional Office located in Boulder City, Nevada.

Located adjacent to Hoover Dam, the Lower Colorado Region's Regional Office is responsible for managing federal water and hydropower resources along the last 688 miles of the Colorado River within the United States. This region includes Lake Mead, where millions of gallons of water are released every day to meet the municipal, agricultural and industrial demands of communities located across Arizona, California and Nevada. Together, we represent Lake Mead's largest municipal users who rely on continued Colorado River operations without interruptions.


Among many of its responsibilities, the Lower Colorado Region's Regional Office is responsible for operating Hoover Dam – one of the federal government's single most important pieces of infrastructure in the United States. The office provides real-time data and operational resources, which are relied upon across our three agencies. Its staff is comprised of hard-working individuals who support ongoing river operations without an agenda.

Cuts to the workforce would undoubtedly affect the ability for the Bureau of Reclamation to reliably manage federal Colorado River resources, threatening the water supply availability to three western states, millions of Americans and some of the richest, most productive farmlands in America.

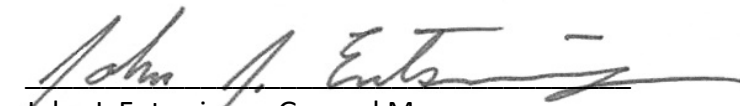
With Reclamation's significant energy and water portfolio, maintaining sustained, reliable operations at the Lower Colorado Region's Regional Office will undoubtedly support progress in these areas. While we support efforts to streamline government priorities and make federal agencies more efficient, cost savings cannot come at the expense of a water and power supply for millions of Americans. We strongly urge that any efforts to improve cost effectiveness do not come at the expense of personnel responsible for the water and power delivery systems that are vital to so many, including the agencies that we represent.

We look forward to working with the Department of the Interior, Trump-Vance Administration, and you on issues of importance as it relates to water in the West.

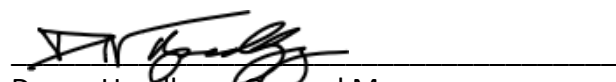
Sincerely,



Brenda Burman, General Manager
Central Arizona Project



John J. Entsminger, General Manager
Southern Nevada Water Authority



Deven Upadhyay, General Manager
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

cc: David Palumbo, Acting Commissioner - Bureau of Reclamation

