



February 21, 2023

SENT VIA: EMAIL

MEMBER AGENCIES

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Sebastopol
- City of Ukiah
- County of Mendocino
- County of Sonoma
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

ANDY RODGERS
Executive Director

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Secretary Deb Haaland
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 67, Room 152
Denver, CO 80225

SUBJECT: Support for the Town of Windsor's Multi-Feasibility Study to the BOR

Dear Madam Secretary:

On behalf of the Russian River Watershed Association Board of Directors, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Town of Windsor's application to the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) to conduct a multi-feasibility study to expand its recycled water service and increase its recycled water storage availability to Windsor.

The Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) is a coalition of ten cities, counties, and special districts in the Russian River watershed that have come together to coordinate regional programs for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement. RRWA was formed in 2003 to create opportunities for our member agencies to expand their stewardship role in the watershed.

The Town of Windsor, California, is located within the Russian River Watershed, which is particularly vulnerable to the current megadrought that has been ravaging much of California for several years. By increasing its recycled water service, Windsor can help protect this important watershed from further strain. The proposed planning project would reduce the demand for groundwater and surface water sources from the watershed and ensure that the existing freshwater supply remains protected and undiminished.

The Town of Windsor has a responsibility to help protect the Russian River Watershed and taking measures like this feasibility study is an effective way to do so. Not only will it help to conserve freshwater resources, but it can also have other positive impacts, such as reduced pollution runoff. By taking this step now, future generations can enjoy a healthier and more sustainable environment. These efforts will help protect the Russian River Watershed from drought-related damage and ensure its sustainability for future generations.

We urge the BOR to fund this important initiative. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Andy Rodgers, Executive Director
Russian River Watershed Association