

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5483

To promote water supply reliability and improved water management for rural communities, the State of California, and the Nation, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

Mr. HARDER of California (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. COSTA, Mr. PANNETTA, and Mr. SWALWELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To promote water supply reliability and improved water management for rural communities, the State of California, and the Nation, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Securing Access for
5 the central Valley and Enhancing (SAVE) Water Re-
6 sources Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUND.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
9 Treasury of the United States a fund, to be known as the

1 “Water Infrastructure and Drought Solutions Fund” (re-
2 ferred to in this section as the “Fund”), consisting of—

3 (1) such amounts as are deposited in the Fund
4 under subsection (b); and

5 (2) any interest earned on investment of
6 amounts in the Fund under subsection (c)(1)(B).

7 (b) DEPOSITS TO FUND.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—For each of fiscal years
9 2032 through 2062, the Secretary of the Treasury
10 shall deposit in the Fund \$750,000,000 of the reve-
11 nues that would otherwise be deposited for the fiscal
12 year in the reclamation fund established by the first
13 section of the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388,
14 chapter 1093), of which—

15 (A) \$250,000,000 shall be expended by the
16 Secretary of the Interior for new surface or
17 ground water storage projects provided that—

18 (i) expenditures are made for nonre-
19 imburseable public benefits under Federal
20 reclamation law (the Act of June 17, 1902
21 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093), and Acts
22 supplemental to and amendatory of that
23 Act); and

1 (ii) Federal expenditures account for
2 no more than 50 percent of total costs for
3 any project;

4 (B) \$250,000,000 shall be expended by the
5 Secretary of the Interior for water reclamation
6 and reuse projects authorized under title XVI
7 of Public Law 102–575 and section 4009 of
8 Public Law 114–322; and

9 (C) \$250,000,000 shall be expended by the
10 Secretary of the Interior for WaterSMART
11 grants authorized under the Omnibus Public
12 Lands Management Act of 2009 (42 U.S.C.
13 10364).

14 (2) AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.—Amounts de-
15 posited in the Fund under this section shall—

16 (A) be made available in accordance with
17 this section, without further appropriation; and

18 (B) be in addition to amounts appropriated
19 for such purposes under any other provision of
20 law.

21 (c) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b),
23 for each of fiscal years 2032 through 2062, the re-
24 spective Secretary may expend from the Fund, in ac-

1 cordance with this section, not more than an amount
2 equal to the sum of—

3 (A) the amounts deposited in the Fund
4 that year under subsection (b); and

5 (B) the amount of interest accrued in the
6 Fund for the fiscal year in which the expendi-
7 tures are made.

8 (2) ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES.—

9 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may ex-
10 pend more in any fiscal year than the amounts
11 described in subsection (a) if the additional
12 amounts are available in the Fund as a result
13 of a failure of the Secretary to expend all of the
14 amounts available under subsection (a) in 1 or
15 more prior fiscal years.

16 (B) RETENTION IN ACCOUNTS.—Any addi-
17 tional amounts referred to in paragraph (1)
18 shall—

19 (i) accrue interest in accordance with
20 this section; and

21 (ii) only be expended for the purposes
22 for which expenditures from the Fund are
23 authorized.

24 **SEC. 3. GROUND WATER RECHARGE PLANNING.**

25 (a) FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.—

1 (1) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

2 (A) there is a lack of information regard-
3 ing local ground water storage and recharge op-
4 portunities in the Western United States;

5 (B) additional information regarding local
6 ground water storage and recharge opportuni-
7 ties can help inform future Federal and State
8 funding activities and assist State government
9 initiatives such as implementation of part 2.74
10 of the California Water Code (commonly known
11 as the “Sustainable Groundwater Management
12 Act”); and

13 (C) challenges associated with drought and
14 extreme aridity from changing weather patterns
15 will require additional investment in ground
16 water storage and recharge.

17 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is
18 to help inform future Federal, State, local, and other
19 investment in ground water recharge projects.

20 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 (1) CRITICALLY OVERDRAFTED BASINS.—The
22 term “critically overdrafted basins” means those ba-
23 sins identified by the California Department of
24 Water Resources pursuant to part 2.74 of the Cali-
25 fornia Water Code (commonly known as the “Cal-

1 fornia’s Sustainable Groundwater Management
2 Act”).

3 (2) RECLAMATION STATE.—The term “Rec-
4 lamation State” means any Reclamation State (as
5 defined in section 4014 of the Water Infrastructure
6 Improvements for the Nation Act (Public Law 114–
7 322; 43 U.S.C. 390b note)).

8 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
9 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
10 rector of the United States Geological Survey.

11 (c) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years after
13 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
14 shall complete an evaluation and report to Congress
15 that identifies potential ground water storage and
16 recharge opportunities in each Reclamation State in-
17 cluding recharge opportunities in critically over-
18 drafted basins.

19 (2) REPORT.—The report to Congress shall in-
20 clude—

21 (A) an assessment of potentially beneficial
22 storage and recharge locations based on the
23 Secretary’s assessment of—

24 (i) hydrologic attributes;

25 (ii) geologic attributes;

- 1 (iii) engineering attributes;
2 (iv) water supply benefits;
3 (v) environmental benefits;
4 (vi) infrastructure benefits related to
5 mitigation of subsidence-related infrastruc-
6 ture damage; and
7 (vii) sustainability benefits for criti-
8 cally overdrafted basins; and
9 (B) an assessment of potential conveyance
10 infrastructure needs to move excess runoff to
11 the recharge locations identified by the Sec-
12 retary under this section.

13 (3) COORDINATION.—To the maximum extent
14 practicable, the Secretary shall coordinate research
15 activities with Reclamation State agencies, ground
16 water sustainability agencies, universities, and non-
17 profit organizations in a manner designed to assist
18 with implementation of State-led initiatives such as
19 part 2.74 of the California Water Code (commonly
20 known as the “Sustainable Groundwater Manage-
21 ment Act”).

1 **SEC. 4. RECLAMATION INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AND IN-**
2 **NOVATION PILOT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the
4 “Reclamation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation
5 Act”.

6 (b) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of the Interior
7 (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) shall estab-
8 lish and carry out a pilot program under which the Sec-
9 retary shall provide to eligible entities described in section
10 5025 of the Water Resources Reform and Development
11 Act of 2014 (33 U.S.C. 3904) financial assistance to carry
12 out eligible projects described in subsection (c) of this sec-
13 tion.

14 (c) **ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.**—

15 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—A project eligible to receive
16 assistance under this section is a water supply
17 project that, as determined by the Secretary—

18 (A) is located in—

19 (i) the State of Alaska;

20 (ii) the State of Hawaii; or

21 (iii) a Reclamation State (as defined
22 in section 4014 of the Water Infrastruc-
23 ture Improvements for the Nation Act
24 (Public Law 114–322; 43 U.S.C. 390b
25 note));

1 (B) would contribute directly or indirectly
2 (including through ground water recharge) to a
3 safe, adequate water supply for domestic, agri-
4 cultural, environmental, municipal, or industrial
5 use; and

6 (C) is otherwise eligible for assistance
7 under this section.

8 (2) SMALL COMMUNITY PROJECTS.—For
9 projects eligible for assistance under this section and
10 section 5028(a)(2)(B) of the Water Resources Re-
11 form and Development Act of 2014 (33 U.S.C.
12 3907(a)(2)(B)), the Secretary may assist applicants
13 in combining 1 or more projects into a single appli-
14 cation in order to meet the minimum project cost of
15 \$5,000,000 required under such section
16 5028(a)(2)(B).

17 (d) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—The following entities are
18 eligible to receive assistance under this section:

19 (1) An entity described in section 5025 of the
20 Water Resources Reform and Development Act of
21 2014 (33 U.S.C. 3904).

22 (2) A conservancy district, reclamation district,
23 or irrigation district.

24 (3) A canal company or mutual water company.

25 (4) A water users' association.

1 (5) An agency established by an interstate com-
2 pact.

3 (6) Any other individual or entity that has the
4 capacity to contract with the United States under
5 the reclamation laws.

6 (e) REQUIREMENTS.—

7 (1) PROJECT SELECTION.—In selecting eligible
8 projects to receive assistance under this section, the
9 Secretary shall ensure diversity with respect to—

10 (A) project type; and

11 (B) geographical location, both within and
12 among the States referred to in subsection
13 (c)(1).

14 (2) IMPORTATION OF OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—
15 The following shall apply to the pilot program under
16 this section:

17 (A) Sections 5022, 5024, 5027, 5028,
18 5029, 5030, 5031, 5032, and 5034(a) of the
19 Water Resources Reform and Development Act
20 of 2014 (33 U.S.C. 3901, 3903, 3906, 3907,
21 3908, 3909, 3910, 3911, and 3913(a)), except
22 that—

23 (i) any reference contained in those
24 sections to the Secretary of the Army shall

1 be considered to be a reference to the Sec-
2 retary of the Interior;

3 (ii) any reference contained in those
4 sections to an eligible project shall be con-
5 sidered to be a reference to an eligible
6 project described in subsection (c) of this
7 section;

8 (iii) subsections (a)(1)(E), (a)(6)(B),
9 and (b)(3) of section 5028 of that Act (33
10 U.S.C. 3907) shall not apply with respect
11 to this section; and

12 (iv) subsections (e) and (f) of section
13 5030 of that Act (33 U.S.C. 3909) shall
14 not apply with respect to this section.

15 (B) The agreement between the Adminis-
16 trator of the Environmental Protection Agency
17 and the Commissioner of Reclamation required
18 under section 4301 of the America's Water In-
19 frastructure Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-
20 270).

21 (C) Other applicable environmental laws,
22 including the National Environmental Policy
23 Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

24 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
2 appropriated to the Secretary to carry out the pilot
3 program under this section \$150,000,000 for fiscal
4 years 2024 through 2028, to remain available until
5 expended.

6 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Of the funds
7 made available under paragraph (1), the Secretary
8 may use for administrative costs of carrying out the
9 pilot program under this section (including for the
10 provision of technical assistance to project sponsors
11 pursuant to paragraph (3) and in obtaining nec-
12 essary approvals and transfer to the Administrator
13 of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide
14 assistance in administering and servicing Federal
15 credit instruments under the pilot program) not
16 more than \$5,000,000 for each applicable fiscal
17 year.

18 (3) SMALL COMMUNITY PROJECTS.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
20 graph (B), the Commissioner may use the
21 funds made available under paragraph (2) to
22 provide assistance, including assistance to pay
23 the costs of acquiring the rating opinion letters
24 under section 5028(a)(1)(D) of the Water Re-
25 sources Reform and Development Act of 2014

1 (33 U.S.C. 3907(a)(1)(D)), to assist project
2 sponsors in obtaining the necessary approval for
3 small community projects that are eligible for
4 assistance under section 5028(a)(2)(B) of that
5 Act.

6 (B) LIMITATION.—Assistance provided to
7 a project sponsor under subparagraph (A) may
8 not exceed an amount equal to 75 percent of
9 the total administrative costs incurred by the
10 project sponsor in securing financial assistance
11 under this section.

12 (g) LIMITATION.—No project that receives financial
13 assistance under this section may be financed (directly or
14 indirectly), in whole or in part, with proceeds of any obli-
15 gation the interest on which is exempt from the tax im-
16 posed under chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of
17 1986.

18 (h) ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE.—

19 (1) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—The following
20 projects may be carried out using assistance made
21 available under this section:

22 (A) A project for the reclamation and
23 reuse of municipal, industrial, domestic, and ag-
24 ricultural wastewater, and naturally impaired
25 ground water, which the Secretary, acting

1 through the Commissioner of Reclamation, is
2 authorized to undertake.

3 (B) Any water infrastructure project not
4 specifically authorized by law that—

5 (i) the Secretary determines, through
6 the completion of an appraisal investiga-
7 tion and feasibility study, would contribute
8 to a safe, adequate water supply for do-
9 mestic, agricultural, environmental, or mu-
10 nicipal and industrial use; and

11 (ii) is otherwise eligible for assistance
12 under this section.

13 (C) A new water infrastructure facility
14 project, including—

15 (i) a water conduit, pipeline, or canal;
16 and

17 (ii) pumping, power, and associated
18 facilities.

19 (D) A project for enhanced energy effi-
20 ciency in the operation of a water system.

21 (E) A project for accelerated repair and re-
22 placement of all, or a portion, of an aging water
23 distribution facility.

24 (F) A brackish or sea water desalination
25 project.

1 (G) Acquisition of real property or an in-
2 terest in real property for water storage, re-
3 claimed or recycled water, or wastewater, if the
4 acquisition is integral to a project described in
5 subparagraphs (A) through (F).

6 (H) A project to deliver water to wildlife
7 refuges.

8 (I) A combination of projects, each of
9 which is eligible under subparagraphs (A)
10 through (H), for which an eligible entity sub-
11 mits a single application.

12 (2) ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE.—
13 For the purposes of this section, an eligible activity
14 with respect to an eligible project under paragraph
15 (1) includes the cost of—

16 (A) development-phase activities, including
17 planning, feasibility analysis, revenue fore-
18 casting, environmental review, permitting,
19 transaction costs, preliminary engineering and
20 design work, and other preconstruction activi-
21 ties;

22 (B) construction, reconstruction, rehabili-
23 tation, and replacement activities;

24 (C) the acquisition of real property (includ-
25 ing water rights, land relating to the project,

1 and improvements to land), environmental miti-
2 gation, construction contingencies, and acquisi-
3 tion of equipment;

4 (D) capitalized interest necessary to meet
5 market requirements, reasonably required re-
6 serve funds, capital issuance expenses, and
7 other carrying costs during construction;

8 (E) refinancing interim construction fund-
9 ing, long-term project obligations, or a secured
10 loan, loan guarantee, or other credit enhance-
11 ment made under this section;

12 (F) refinancing long-term project obliga-
13 tions or Federal credit instruments, if that refi-
14 nancing provides additional funding capacity for
15 the completion, enhancement, or expansion of
16 any project selected for assistance under this
17 Act;

18 (G) reimbursement or success payments to
19 any public or private entity that achieves pre-
20 determined outcomes on a pay-for-performance
21 or pay-for-success basis; and

22 (H) grants, loans, or credit enhancement
23 for community development financial institu-
24 tions, green banks, and other financial inter-

1 mediaries providing ongoing finance for projects
2 that meet the purposes of this section.

3 **SEC. 5. FEASIBILITY STUDIES.**

4 As soon as practicable after the date of the enactment
5 of this Act, in compliance with all environmental and other
6 applicable laws, the Secretary of the Interior shall com-
7 plete all remaining feasibility studies associated with Del
8 Puerto Canyon Reservoir, located in the foothills of the
9 Coast Range mountains west of Patterson, California.

10 **SEC. 6. RURAL WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM REAUTHORIZA-**
11 **TION.**

12 The Rural Water Supply Act of 2006 (Public Law
13 109–451) is amended—

14 (1) in section 109(a) (43 U.S.C. 2408(a)), by
15 striking “2016” and inserting “2028”; and

16 (2) in section 110 (43 U.S.C. 2409), by striking
17 “2016” and inserting “2028”.

18 **SEC. 7. COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FUNDING**
19 **OF WATER RECYCLING AND REUSE**
20 **PROJECTS.**

21 (a) COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FUND-
22 ING OF WATER RECYCLING AND REUSE PROJECTS.—Sec-
23 tion 1602(f) of the Reclamation Wastewater and Ground-
24 water Study and Facilities Act (title XVI of Public Law

1 102–575; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by striking
2 paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

3 “(2) PRIORITY.—When funding projects under
4 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall give funding pri-
5 ority to projects that meet one or more of the fol-
6 lowing criteria:

7 “(A) Projects that are likely to provide a
8 more reliable water supply for States and local
9 governments.

10 “(B) Projects that are likely to increase
11 the water management flexibility and reduce
12 impacts on environmental resources from
13 projects operated by Federal and State agen-
14 cies.

15 “(C) Projects that are regional in nature.

16 “(D) Projects with multiple stakeholders.

17 “(E) Projects that provide multiple bene-
18 fits, including water supply reliability, eco-sys-
19 tem benefits, ground water management and
20 enhancements, and water quality improve-
21 ments.”.

22 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
23 1602(g) of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater
24 Study and Facilities Act (title XVI of Public Law 102–
25 575; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) Demonstration of desalination of brackish
2 or sea water with significantly less energy than com-
3 mercially available reverse osmosis technology.

4 (2) Demonstration of portable or modular de-
5 salination units that can process 1 to 5,000,000 gal-
6 lons per day that can be deployed for temporary
7 emergency uses in coastal communities or commu-
8 nities with brackish ground water supplies.

9 (3) Demonstration of significant advantages
10 over commercially available reverse osmosis tech-
11 nology as determined by the board established under
12 subsection (c).

13 (4) Reducing open water evaporation.

14 (5) Improving methods to treat and reuse agri-
15 cultural drainage waters.

16 (6) Reducing the loss of threatened and endan-
17 gered fish due to fish predation.

18 (7) Reducing the entrainment of fish larvae on
19 screens and intakes.

20 (b) ELIGIBLE PERSON.—For the purposes of award-
21 ing prizes under subsection (a), an eligible person is—

22 (1) an individual who is—

23 (A) a citizen or legal resident of the
24 United States; or

1 (B) a member of an agricultural group or
2 organization that includes citizens or legal resi-
3 dents of the United States;

4 (2) an entity that is incorporated and maintains
5 its primary place of business in the United States;
6 or

7 (3) a public water agency.

8 (c) ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Inte-
10 rior shall establish a board (referred to in this sec-
11 tion as the “Board”) to administer the program es-
12 tablished under subsection (a).

13 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Board shall be com-
14 posed of not less than 15 and not more than 21
15 members appointed by the President, including—

16 (A) at least 1 member with expertise in the
17 field of water technology or administering
18 award competitions; and

19 (B) at least 1 representative for each the
20 following:

21 (i) The interests of academic, busi-
22 ness, and nonprofit organizations.

23 (ii) Agricultural water users.

24 (iii) Municipal and industrial water
25 users.

1 (iv) The Bureau of Reclamation of the
2 Department of the Interior.

3 (v) The National Science Foundation.

4 (d) AWARDS.—Subject to the availability of appro-
5 priations, the Board may make awards under the program
6 established under subsection (a) as follows:

7 (1) FINANCIAL PRIZE.—The Board may hold a
8 financial award competition and award a financial
9 award in an amount determined before the com-
10 mencement of the competition to the first competitor
11 to meet such criteria as the Board shall establish.

12 (2) RECOGNITION PRIZE.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Board may recog-
14 nize an eligible person for superlative achieve-
15 ment in 1 or more applications described in
16 subsection (a).

17 (B) NO FINANCIAL REMUNERATION.—An
18 award under this paragraph shall not include
19 any financial remuneration.

20 (C) NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVA-
21 TION MEDAL RECOMMENDATIONS.—If an eligi-
22 ble person is recognized under this paragraph,
23 the Board shall recommend to the Secretary of
24 Commerce that a recommendation be submitted
25 to the President to award such eligible person

1 the National Technology and Innovation Medal
2 under section 3711 of the Stevenson-Wydler
3 Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C.
4 3711).

5 (e) ADMINISTRATION.—

6 (1) CONTRACTING.—The Board may contract
7 with a private organization to administer a financial
8 award competition described in subsection (d)(1).

9 (2) SOLICITATION OF FUNDS.—A member of
10 the Board or any administering organization with
11 which the Board has a contract under paragraph (1)
12 may solicit gifts from private and public entities to
13 be used for a financial award under subsection
14 (d)(1).

15 (3) LIMITATION ON PARTICIPATION OF DO-
16 NORS.—The Board may allow a donor who is a pri-
17 vate person described in paragraph (2) to participate
18 in the determination of criteria for an award under
19 subsection (d), but such donor may not solely deter-
20 mine the criteria for such award.

21 (4) NO ADVANTAGE FOR DONATION.—A donor
22 who is a private person described in paragraph (3)
23 shall not be entitled to any special consideration or
24 advantage with respect to participation in a financial
25 award competition under subsection (d)(1).

1 (f) INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY.—The Federal Gov-
2 ernment may not acquire an intellectual property right in
3 any product or idea by virtue of the submission of such
4 product or idea in any competition under subsection
5 (d)(1).

6 (g) LIABILITY.—The Board may require a competitor
7 in a financial award competition under subsection (d)(1)
8 to waive liability against the Federal Government for inju-
9 ries and damages that result from participation in such
10 competition.

11 (h) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each year, the Board shall
12 submit to Congress a report on the program established
13 under subsection (a).

14 (i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
16 appropriated sums for the program established
17 under subsection (a) as follows:

18 (A) For administration of prize competi-
19 tions under subsection (d), \$750,000 for each
20 fiscal year.

21 (B) For the awarding of a financial prize
22 award under subsection (d)(1), in addition to
23 any amounts received under subsection (e)(2),
24 \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year.

1 (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pur-
2 suant to the authorization of appropriations under
3 paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.

4 (j) WATER TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT PROGRAM
5 ESTABLISHED.—The Secretary of the Interior, acting
6 through the Bureau of Reclamation, shall establish a pro-
7 gram, pursuant to the Reclamation Wastewater and
8 Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (title XVI of Public
9 Law 102–575), the Water Desalination Act of 1996 (Pub-
10 lic Law 104–298), and other applicable laws, to promote
11 the expanded use of technology for improving availability
12 and resiliency of water supplies and power deliveries,
13 which shall include—

14 (1) investments to enable expanded and acceler-
15 ated deployment of desalination technology;

16 (2) investments to enable expanded and acceler-
17 ated use of recycled water; and

18 (3) investments that improve water manage-
19 ment, using best available science, and include real-
20 time monitoring of wildlife and water deliveries.

21 (k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 are authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for each fis-
23 cal year for the Secretary to carry out the purposes and
24 provisions of subsection (j). Funds made available under

1 this subsection shall be considered a nonreimbursable Fed-
2 eral expenditure and shall remain available until expended.

3 **SEC. 9. LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR EXPANSION.**

4 In compliance with all environmental and other appli-
5 cable laws, the Secretary of the Interior shall take all nec-
6 essary steps as expeditiously as possible, to complete all
7 necessary reviews to issue a Record of Decision on the Los
8 Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Phase II project.

9 **SEC. 10. EXPEDITED RESPONSE TO INCLUSION REQUEST.**

10 The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bu-
11 reau of Reclamation, shall expedite to the Stockton East
12 Water District a detailed response with respect to affect-
13 ing changes of the Water District's inclusion request dated
14 June 7, 2023 (relating to the inclusion of new lands into
15 the Water District's Central Valley Project service area),
16 and shall make such changes to ensure the inclusion of
17 the new lands into the Water District's Central Valley
18 Project Service area.

○