

08/20/25

Ms. Robyn Fennig  
California Governor's Office of Emergency Services  
State Hazard Mitigation Officer (SHMO)  
3650 Shriever Avenue  
Mather, California 95655

**Re: Support for United Water Conservation District's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application**

Dear Ms. Fennig,

On behalf of the Piru community, I am writing to voice our strong support for the United Water Conservation District's (UWCD) application to FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program for the Santa Felicia Dam Outlet Works Improvement Project.

The Santa Felicia Dam and Lake Piru have been a central part of our community for generations; providing reliable water, supporting local families and farms, and helping protect the environment we all depend on. The dam plays a vital role in recharging our groundwater, preventing seawater intrusion, improving regional water quality, and even providing critical water for wildfire suppression in both Ventura and Los Angeles Counties.

We also recognize that the dam, built nearly 70 years ago, no longer meets modern safety standards. With many families living downstream in Piru and along the Santa Clara River, our community is directly impacted by the risks associated with an aging facility. The Outlet Works Improvement Project will strengthen seismic safety, reduce the risk of dam failure, and ensure that the dam continues to operate safely and reliably for decades to come.

This project is more than infrastructure, it is an investment in protecting families, sustaining our water resources, and safeguarding the natural environment that makes Piru and the Santa Clara River Valley so special. For these reasons, we strongly encourage FEMA's support of this important project through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to protecting communities like ours.

Sincerely,

**Ken Wiseman**  
President, Piru Neighborhood Council