**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**
**REGION IX**
**75 Hawthorne Street**
**San Francisco, CA 94105-3901**

**MAY 25 2010**

Jack Collins
South-Central California Area Office
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Department of Interior
1243 N Street
Fresno, CA 93721-1813

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Lake Casitas Resource Management Plan, Ventura County, CA. (CEQ#20100138)

Dear Mr. Collins:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA provided comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on October 31, 2008 to the US Bureau of Reclamation and the Casitas Municipal Water District. We rated the DEIS as Environmental Concerns – Insufficient Information (EC-2) due to the need for additional information regarding air quality, naturally occurring asbestos, water resources, biological resources, climate change, funding, and enforcement.

EPA is pleased that some of the issues identified in our review of the DEIS have been addressed in the FEIS. We acknowledge that there is no naturally occurring asbestos and there was sufficient information on the project's potential impact on the biological and water resources. In particular, we commend the commitment to project-specific air quality analyses including General Conformity analyses, mitigation measures for dust control during construction and maintenance activities, the phase-out of two-stroke carbureted engines, and proposed mitigation measures for climate change.

We have continuing concerns regarding the need for project-specific NEPA analysis for Resource Management Plan (RMP) projects such as the Recreational Vehicle (RV) area, the amphitheatre, open-space trail development, and increased equestrian use. We recommend that the Record of Decision include a firm commitment to project-specific NEPA analyses.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this FEIS. When the ROD is signed, please send one copy to the address above (mail code: CED-2). If you have any questions, please contact me at (415) 972-3521 or contact Laura Fujii, the lead reviewer for this project. Laura can be reached at (415) 972-3852 or fujii.laura@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Connell Dunning

For Kathleen M. Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Office

cc: Casitas Municipal Water District