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February 13, 2007

The Honorable Mark Limbaugh
Assistant Secretary for Water & Science
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Limbaugh:

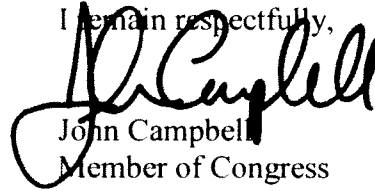
I am writing to encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to provide funding for the Irvine Basin Groundwater and Surface Water Improvement Project in Fiscal Year 2007. This project was authorized in 2004 by Public Law 108-233.

As you are aware, Congress is in the process of adopting a Joint Resolution to complete the FY 2007 appropriations process and fund the functions of government through September 30. It was an anomaly of the process that this budget Resolution will provide the various agencies, including the Bureau of Reclamation, with wide discretion over what activities and projects will be funded during the remainder of the Fiscal Year. However, I believe that the public fiduciary responsibilities of the Bureau require that deference be given to the clear wishes of the Congress as expressed in the Fiscal Year 2007 Energy & Water Development Appropriations bill. This legislation was approved last year by the House of Representatives and by the Appropriations Committee of the Senate. The House bill provided \$1 million for the Irvine project and the Senate Committee version provided \$250,000. Taken together, these actions indicate a desire on the part of the Congress to fund this important project in Fiscal Year 2007.

The Irvine Basin Groundwater and Surface Water Improvement Project is critical to protecting the fragile environment of the Upper Newport Bay, which has been designated by EPA as an "impaired water body" under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. In addition, the Project will help to address water supply issues in Orange County by cleaning impaired groundwater and allowing it to be put to beneficial use. The project is a cost effective and environmentally sound approach to addressing urban runoff and groundwater cleanup issues. I believe it can be a model for others in the future who face similar problems.

I would sincerely appreciate your attention to this matter and would ask that you call me personally if for any reason you are hesitant to provide funding for this Project in Fiscal Year 2007.

I remain respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "C".

John Campbell
Member of Congress