

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

February 23, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

In anticipation of this week's announcement regarding water supply allocations for the 2010 irrigation season for the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, we are writing to demand that you do everything you can to identify every drop of water available for farming in our region of California, this crop year and for 2011 as well.

As you are aware, we have initiated countless meetings, phone calls, forums and other means to garner assistance from the Department of the Interior. We have continued to do our part. Your efforts, if meaningful, would provide jobs and reduce depression like unemployment numbers in the San Joaquin Valley and assist in limiting foreclosures that family farms are facing. Now, as our farming community awaits your announcement, the onus is upon you to demonstrate that you have explored every single possibility to provide additional, affordable water to our communities to help sustain this critical part of our economy through this time of crisis.

Sincerely,



Dennis Cardoza



Jim Costa