June 29, 2017

Department of Water Resources, Financial Assistance Branch P.O. Box 94236 Sacramento, California 94236

RE: Support Letter for the Sierra Institute to be the applicant for the Proposition 1 Disadvantaged Community Involvement grant for the Mountain Counties Funding Area

Dear IRWM staff:

This letter is being submitted on behalf of the Southern Sierra Regional Water Management Group (SSRWMG), to demonstrate support for the Sierra Institute (SI) as the applicant for the Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program grant for the Mountain Counties Funding Area (MCFA). The SSRWMG recognizes that the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) requires a single entity with sufficient administrative, fiscal, and organizational capacity to submit a single Proposal (once approved, Program) on behalf of the entire MCFA. SI is such an entity.

In 2016 the Sierra Water Workgroup convened an open, collaborative process for representatives from the Regional Water Management Groups, tribes, community-based organizations and stakeholders within the MCFA to discuss and develop a Request for Qualifications selection process for an Applicant/grant manager.

The Sierra Institute was selected because of their extensive experience and qualifications. For over two decades SI has worked successfully with collaborative groups, community groups, water organizations, and agencies directly involved with addressing water management needs of disadvantaged and underrepresented communities.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding our support for the Sierra Institutes involvement in this grant process.

Sincerely,

Bobby Kamansky

Southern Sierra Regional Water Management Group Coordinator

(559) 287-3311