

COLUMBIA-SNAKE RIVER IRRIGATORS ASSOCIATION POLICY MEMORANDUM

Representing System 1 (and 2 and 4) Irrigators, the CSRIA remains open to a litigation settlement with the ECBID Board, *to allow for private construction of new surface water delivery systems from the East Low Canal (ELC).*

The economics, and renewed call for further subsidies, surrounding Odessa Subarea irrigation system development make ever-more apparent the need to unleash private sector capital and construction. The Irrigators/CSRIA assessment proposal to the ECBID serves that end.

The Irrigators/CSRIA assessment (\$125/acre) proposal to ECBID provides for:

- Full private sector funding and construction of System 1 (and other systems).
- Full private sector funding for the remaining modifications to ELC, estimated to be about \$28 million (in addition to the state's 2013 contribution of \$27 million).
- Full private sector funding for all District and USBR OM&R costs.
- Full private sector funding for the new systems' integration and management.
- Private sector transfer payments to the District for undefined costs or services.

The Irrigators/CSRIA assessment proposal:

- Does not rely on any further state/federal subsidies or transfer payments to complete System 1 (or other system) development.
- Already has received formal lender borrowing authority for about \$42 million (System 1), with further lending commitments for up to \$100 million.

Continued objection to direct private sector funding/development only makes the state's 2013 funding allocation to ELC modifications appear fiscally irresponsible.

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