

Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie

The Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie received \$17.5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding and \$13.2 million from other sources to connect the federal Delta-Mendota Canal and the California Aqueduct, a state facility. They were connected by way of a pumping station and two 108-inch diameter pipes. The Intertie is in an unincorporated area of the San Joaquin Valley in Alameda County west of Tracy, California.

The Intertie has the capacity to pump 467 cubic feet per second uphill from the Delta-Mendota Canal to the California Aqueduct and to allow a reverse gravity flow of 900 cfs. The Intertie is located at the closest point between the two canals, where they are about 500 feet apart. The California Aqueduct is about 50 feet higher than the Delta-Mendota Canal. It is about 8 miles downstream of the C.W. "Bill" Jones (federal) and Harvey O. Banks (state) pumping plants.

The Jones Pumping Plant and the Delta-Mendota Canal are the primary federal water delivery facilities, providing water to the Central Valley Project contractors south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay Delta. The Intertie provides redundancy in the water distribution system, allows for maintenance and repair activities that are less disruptive to water deliveries, and provides flexibility to respond to CVP and State Water Project emergencies.

The Intertie went into operation in 2012. It increases the operational flexibility for the combined operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project by allowing operators to help fill the San Luis Reservoir earlier in the year. On a long-term annual average, the Intertie is expected to provide an increase of 35,000 acre-feet in CVP deliveries. The operations comply with the existing pumping restriction guidelines that govern the Jones and Banks pumping plants.

