

October 12, 2012

Governor Edmund G Brown Jr.,
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown,

Near-Term Delta Projects We Support To Move Forward in the Process(es)

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is the focus of several planning and regulatory processes that are often characterized by conflict and tension among agencies and stakeholders. Parties have recognized there are good and worthy near-term projects that seem to get lost in the tensions surrounding these processes. This year a very diverse group of stakeholders came together as an ad hoc group of individuals in six meetings. The goal was to identify near-term Delta projects that should move forward through the regulatory and other processes.

We, the undersigned, are writing to urge you to provide leadership to achieve implementation of a significant number of near-term projects.

Criteria used to identify projects for this list were:

- A. Projects that have wide support
- B. Projects that can be on line within 5 to 10 years
- C. Projects that are “no risk or low risk for any regrets” and do not prejudice the outcome of BDCP or the Delta Plan
- D. Projects that can be funded
- E. Projects supported by local landowners
- F. Projects we could learn from
- G. Projects that are designed or refined/redesigned to avoid impacts and provide multiple benefits
- H. Projects supported by science, and that come with specific monitoring or performance criteria, but absolute certainty of outcome not possible or required
- I. Projects that could foster cooperation

J. No “red flagged” projects

The list of projects we support to move forward in the process(es) is attached as Table 1. Table II provides more information on project costs and timing.

Some of these projects are already underway while others require detailed engineering or design work to confirm feasibility. In some cases the proposals are still in the conceptual stage.

These are projects that should receive timely and complete environmental and permit review. We recognize that in the environmental or permit review for specific projects some fatal flaws might emerge.

In many cases these projects could be eligible for funding from existing sources. This process is not intended to cause reallocation or reprioritization of existing funding sources. We also recognize that the total cost of these projects exceeds currently available funding. Therefore we anticipate cooperating in the advocacy for additional funding from a variety of sources.

Several permitting or funding agencies participated in our meetings. Their comments and questions helped the group understand potential issues. However, they are unable to express support in any way that could be considered “pre-decisional.”

The last scheduled meeting of the Coalition to Support Delta Projects was September 26, 2012. Participants are currently discussing how to continue this consensus process. Future activities are likely to include review of additional projects as they are brought forward and determining the best ways to help get worthwhile near-term projects implemented.

Signatories

(Affiliations for identification purposes only)



Jonas Minton,
Planning and Conservation League



Jason Peltier,
Westlands Water District

Thomas Zuckerman,
Central Delta Water Agency



Doug Brown,
Delta Counties Coalition



Roger Patterson,
The Metropolitan Water District of
Southern California



Greg Gartell,
Contra Costa Water District



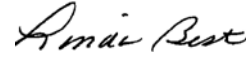
Brett Baker,
Delta Farmer Reclamation District 349



Barbara Barrigan- Parrilla,
Restore the Delta



Ron Bernal,
City of Antioch Water Rights



Linda Best,
Contra Costa Council



Gary Bobker,
The Bay Institute



Kelly Catlett,
Defenders of Wildlife



Jennifer Clary,
Clean Water Action



Gilbert Cosio, Jr.,
Delta Reclamation Districts



Stan Dean,
Sacramento Regional County
Sanitation District



Jim Giottonini,
San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency




John Greitzer, Contra Costa
County Department of
Conservation and Development



TM Hardesty,
Reclamation District 2068



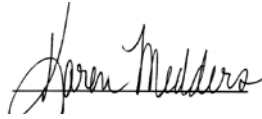
John Herrick,
South Delta Water Agency



David Katz,
Cal Marsh/Farm Ventures, LLC



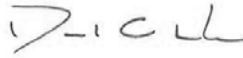
Michael Machado,
Delta Protection Commission



Karen Medders,
North Delta Residents



Jim Metropulos,
Sierra Club California



Dan Nelson,
San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority



Don Nottoli,
Supervisor, Sacramento County



Michael Regan,
Supervisor, Solano County District 5



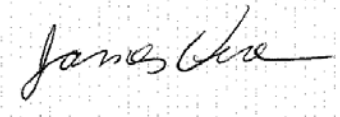
Erik Ringelberg,
Local Agencies of the North Delta



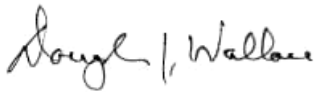
Larry Ruhstaller,
Supervisor, San Joaquin County



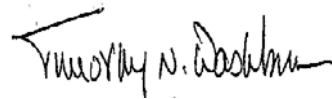
Melinda Terry,
North Delta Water Agency



Jim Verboon,
Families Protecting the Valley



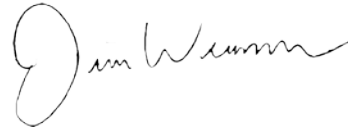
Doug Wallace,
East Bay Municipal Utility District



Tim Washburn,
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency



Leo Winternitz,
The Nature Conservancy



Jim Wunderman,
Bay Area Council

Attachments

Table 1: Near-Term Delta Projects Supported to Move Forward in the Process(es):
Summary Information

Table 2: Near-Term Delta Projects Supported to Move Forward in the Process(es):
Cost and Timing Information

cc's: John Laird, Secretary for Natural Resources

Matt Rodriquez, Secretary for Environmental Protection

Brian P. Kelly, Acting Secretary Business, Transportation and Housing Agency