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DELTA COUNCIL  
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Delta Counties Coalition  
Contra Costa County\* Sacramento County San Joaquin County- Solano County Yolo County  
"Working together on water and Delta issues"

Chair and Members  
Delta Stewardship Council  
c/o Mr. Joe Grindstaff  
Executive Officer  
980 Ninth Street  
Suite 1500  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Delta Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report**

Honorable Chair and Members:

On November 4, 2011, the Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR") for the Delta Plan was released for public review and comment. The period provided for that review and comment presently ends on January 3, 2011.

The County Counsels for the five counties in which the Delta is situated, Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano and Yolo, urge that the comment period be extended for a minimum of an additional 120 days.

The DEIR consists of nearly 1500 pages of technical analysis; 800 pages of highly technical appendices and reliance upon 13 reference Environmental Impact Reports. All of this attempts to describe environmental impacts and mitigation within a region which, by definition, encompasses a fragile and interdependent ecosystem. Further, the potential impacts of the Delta Plan are, at first glance, cast well beyond the defined Delta.

For those to be affected by the Delta Plan, a more than cursory review of the DEIR is required. Meaningful comments will require meaningful review across an array of disciplines.

Without regard to the timing of the comment period, review and analysis of the DEIR will require more than the allotted 60 days. Yet, the allotted comment period falls over two major holiday periods, included periods during which some affected agencies will be without staff as the result of furloughs or other resource restrictions.

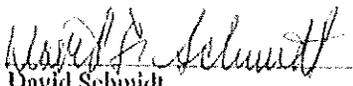
The five Delta counties desire to provide meaningful review of and comments on the DEIR. We are sure others do, as well. We do not believe that the current comment period will provide time for such review and comments.

We, therefore, reiterate our recommendation that the comment period be extended to April 2, 2012.

Sincerely,

SHARON L. ANDERSON,  
Contra Costa County Counsel

ROBERT A. RYAN, JR.,  
Sacramento County Counsel

  
By: David Schmidt  
Deputy County Counsel



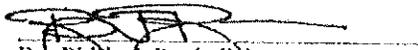
DAVID E. WOOTEN,  
San Joaquin County Counsel

DENNIS BUNTING,  
Solano County Counsel



  
By: Daniel M. Wolk  
Deputy County Counsel

ROBYN TRUITT DRIVON,  
Yolo County Counsel

  
By: Philip J. Pogledich  
Senior Deputy County Counsel