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**To:** [Interim.Plan@DeltaCouncil](mailto:Interim.Plan@DeltaCouncil)  
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Delta Diablo Sanitation District (DDSD) serves approximately 200,000 customers and is located in the western region of the Delta. The District has been leading two Bay Area wide efforts to develop recycle water projects (Google Bay Area Recycle Water Coalition for more details on this 14 agency coalition) as well as a project to turn biosolids into energy (Google Bay Area Biosolids to Energy for more details on this 16 agency coalition). In response to the July 19, 2010 letter from Chair, Phil Isenberg, DDSD offers the following actions for consideration:

Objective (d) "Promote statewide water conservation, water use..." we suggest that the Delta Stewardship Council:

- 1) Provide legislative direction to DWR to separate out specific funds from the IRWMP process and dedicate those funds to the development of recycled water and desalination projects. The funds could be directed to the SWRCB who successfully administered a statewide funding competitive grants program for recycled water projects that was funded from Prop 13 and Prop 50. Those funds are now depleted and funding for recycle water projects is folded into the complicated IRWMP process. We suggest that \$300M (or one third) of the \$1b dedicated to the IRWMP from Prop 84 be dedicated for this purpose.
- 2) Assuming funds for recycle water and desalination projects are established as outlined above, direct the responsible agency (i.e. SWRCB) to establish a partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to use the same competitive grant funding process between the state grants program and the federal Title 16 funding program. The Title 16 program funds recycle and desalination projects up to 25% of the total project costs with a cap of \$20M per project. The two funding programs should work together to make sure that the application and approval process are efficient, consistent and available for all size agencies to pursue (i.e. not just the large agencies who have large staffs that can be dedicated to the pursuit of a state and federal recycled water partnership).
- 3) Establish a strong partnership with the six federal agencies that executed the "Interim Federal Action Plan for the CA Bay-Delta" on December 22, 2009. Among other things, the federal plan calls for the examination of the funding availability for recycled water projects through the Title 16 program as well as identifying 5 demonstration projects in the Delta. The state partnership should involve establishing matching funds for the activities agreed upon in the partnership.

Objective (e) "Improve water quality to protect human health and the environment..." we suggest the Delta Stewardship Council:

- 1) Create a program to study and then implement resource recovery projects with wastewater treatment plants. To illustrate the kind of resources available for development, 99.9% of what comes to a wastewater treatment plant is water. That water is a significant resource that has already been diverted from sensitive surface water sources or pumped from a groundwater basin. Those "waste"water flows should not be simply treated at a minimum level to meet discharge standards, but treated to a higher desired level of reuse (i.e. designer water that has treatment suitable to the intended end reuse). Particular focus

should be given to diversions that take place in the Delta, then used, then treated and discharged back into the Delta. Those flows should get the support necessary (i.e. state and federal partnerships since there are statewide and federal benefits) to reuse the water to avoid discharge issues and redirection impacts downstream. The other 0.1% of wastewater treatment plant inflow has significant resources available including energy and nutrients such as phosphorus, nitrogen, etc that should be harvested for use rather than disposed of. Without state and federal partnership assistance, the infrastructure necessary to implement resource recovery projects is too expensive in the near term. Once the new infrastructure is in place, the projects become the new sustainable solution.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is need for clarification or a desire for me to present the above ideas to the Delta Stewardship Council.

Respectfully,

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