

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
3500 INDUSTRIAL BOULEVARD
WEST SACRAMENTO, CA 95691

**MAR 12 2012**

To: Responsible and Trustee Agencies

Subject: Availability of Administrative Draft Chapters of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (BDCP EIR/EIS)

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries Service are in the process of preparing a joint draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to analyze and disclose the potential environmental effects associated with Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) alternatives and to identify potentially feasible ways to avoid or mitigate adverse effects. The Department of Water Resources is acting as lead agency for compliance with CEQA. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries Service are acting as lead agencies for compliance with NEPA. Although not mandated, CEQA encourages early coordination with Responsible and Trustee Agencies during preparation of the draft EIR/EIS.

This letter is to notify your office, as either a Responsible Agency or a Trustee Agency as defined under CEQA, that several administrative draft chapters of the BDCP EIR/EIS are now available for your review at the following website:

<http://baydeltaconservationplan.com/Library/DocumentsLandingPage/EIREISDocuments.aspx>

This link provides access to a page on the BDCP website that contains the following chapters for your review.

Batch A:

- Chapter 1 Introduction
- Chapter 2 Purpose and Need
- Chapter 3 Description of Alternatives
- Chapter 4 Approach to Environmental Analysis
- Chapter 13 Land Use
- Chapter 15 Recreation
- Chapter 19 Transportation
- Chapter 30 Growth Inducement

Batch B:

- Chapter 9 Geology and Seismicity
- Chapter 10 Soils
- Chapter 14 Agriculture

(continued on next page)

2012 MAR 16 PM 1:58

RECEIVED
DELTA COUNCIL
MAILROOM

Responsible and Lead Agencies

MAR 12 2012

Page 2

Chapter 17 Visual
Chapter 18 Cultural and Historic Resources
Chapter 20 Public Services and Utilities
Chapter 21 Energy
Chapter 22 Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Chapter 23 Noise
Chapter 24 Hazards and Hazardous Materials
Chapter 26 Mineral Resources
Chapter 27 Paleontological Resources
Chapter 29 Climate Change

In order to accommodate the BDCP EIR/EIS preparation schedule, we would appreciate it if you could submit your comments on Batch A and B chapters to DWR by close of business on April 16, 2012, using the form attached to this letter.

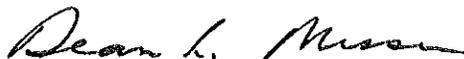
Comments may be filed electronically at BDCPEIREIS@icfi.com or hard copies mailed to the following address:

Russell Stein
c/o Marcus Yee
Department of Water Resources
3500 Industrial Blvd
West Sacramento, CA 95691

The Lead Agencies have completed one round of reviews of Batch A and Batch B chapters and provided comments to the consultant, ICF International (ICFI,) who is drafting the BDCP EIR/EIS. The administrative draft Batch A and Batch B chapters include revisions by ICFI to address comments by the Lead Agencies; however, the revisions to these chapters have not been reviewed or approved by the Lead Agencies for adequacy in meeting the requirements of CEQA or NEPA. A second review of Batch A and Batch B chapters by the Lead Agencies will occur concurrently with your review. Therefore, it is likely that there will be further comments from the Lead Agencies on these chapters along with subsequent revisions. Although Batch C chapters are also posted on the website, they have not yet been reviewed by the Lead Agencies. We are not at this time expecting that your agency review and comment on these chapters. We will send you a similar notice when Batch C chapters are suitable for your review and comment.

If you have any questions, please contact Russell Stein at (916) 651-9560.

Sincerely,



Dean F. Messer, Chief
Division of Environmental Services

Enclosures

cc: (see attached list)

Federico Barajas
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
901 P Street, Suite 411 B, Room 447
Sacramento, California 95814

Ann Chrisney
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
801 I. St., Suite 140
Sacramento, California 95814

Michael Tucker
National Marine Fisheries Service
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100
Sacramento, CA 95814-4708

Lori Rinek
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Ken Bogdan
ICF International
630 K Street #400
Sacramento, California 95818

Steve Centerwall
ICF International
630 K Street #400
Sacramento, California 95818

Michelle Morrow, DWR Office of Chief Counsel
Rebekah R. Gibson, DWR Office of Chief Counsel
Russell Stein, DWR DHCCP

BDCP EIR/EIS Review Document Comment Form

Document: Administrative Draft Batch A and B Chapters

Comment Source:

Submittal Date:

Please note: If you wish to submit comments electronically, this comment form was sent via email on March 14, 2012.

No.	Page	Section	Line	Comment
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				