I158 Stephen Weber

From: Friends of the River on behalf of Stephen Weber
To: comments_EIR@DeltaCouncil
Subject: Please adopt Alternative 2 to restore the Delta and reduce Delta water diversions
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2012 6:51:46 PM

Jan 25, 2012

Mr. Joe Grindstaff
980 9th Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Grindstaff,

I urge the Delta Stewardship Council to adopt Alternative 2 and to specifically limit Delta water diversions to no more than 3,000 cubic feet per second, to implement the Delta Plan. I158-1

Unfortunately, none of the alternatives currently in the EIR meet the legal mandates of restoring the Delta ecosystem, water quality, and fisheries. Therefore, I urge that the draft EIR be recirculated with at least one alternative that fully achieves these important goals. I158-2

A valid Delta Plan must enforce water quality standards and meet the minimum flow recommendations of the California Department of Fish and Game and Water Resources Board.

The Plan should focus on cost-effective water use efficiency, recycling, and conservation measures, instead of costly and destructive dams and canals, to achieve its water supply reliability goal. I158-3

I oppose any alternative that would require the construction of a Peripheral Canal or tunnel to divert more water from the Delta. I also oppose any plan that assumes the taxpayer will cover the costs for Delta projects that primarily benefit those who receive Delta water exports. Those who receive Delta water need to mitigate the damage they have caused to the Delta ecosystem. I158-4

The Delta is a nationally significant public trust resource critical to the economic and environmental health of California. Please adopt a Delta Plan that ensures full protection and restoration of this important estuary. I158-5

Thank you.

Dr. Stephen Weber
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Response to comment I158-1

This is a comment on the project, not on the EIR.

Response to comment I158-2

Regarding the range of alternatives analyzed in the EIR and the consideration of alternatives' ability to meet the coequal goals, please see Master Response 3.

Response to comment I158-3

This is a comment on the project, not on the EIR.

Response to comment I158-4

This is a comment on the project, not on the EIR. None of the alternatives considered in the EIR, including the Final Draft Delta Plan (which is analyzed as the Revised Project in the Recirculated Draft PEIR) include a Peripheral Canal or a tunnel to convey water diverted from the Delta. Regarding the relationship between the Delta Plan and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan, which may include a conveyance facility, please see Master Response 1.

Response to comment I158-5

This is a comment on the project, not on the EIR.