



Mark N. Kinsey
GENERAL MANAGER

September 14, 2011

Delta Stewardship Council
Suite 1500
980 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Serious Concerns About the Draft Delta Plan

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Members of the Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Monte Vista Water District Board of Directors to express our concern with the draft Delta Plan being developed by the Delta Stewardship Council. We are concerned that the Plan may not meet the co-equal goals of improved water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration health in its current form.

The District relies on State Water Project imported water to supplement local water supply sources used to provide a reliable and high quality water service to our retail and wholesale customers. The District is a member of the Water Facilities Authority, a Joint Powers Authority that operates the Aqua de Lejos Water Treatment Plant. With a current value of \$250 million, the facility provides investment in treatment of supplemental imported water supplies for nearly 500,000 local residents. We are concerned that the draft plan is vague in ensuring that the District’s imported water supplies will be reliable in the future. As a public water agency, we cannot adequately plan and pursue opportunities to optimize local resources without some certainty as to our future water supplies.

We are also extremely troubled that the plan seems to establish the framework to dictate local water management decisions on everything from rate structures to recycling targets. The District has been aggressive in constructing a recycled water distribution system that now delivers non-potable water to 18 sites in the City of Montclair for landscape irrigation. We have also adopted a progressive budget-based tiered rate structure to incentivize the efficient use of water by our residential customers. Micromanagement from Sacramento is unnecessary and undercuts local planning efforts hundreds of miles from the Delta. The council should focus its energy instead on improving the reliability of our water supplies and the ecosystem health of the Delta.



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The District is a member of the Association of California Water Agencies, which has taken the lead in developing the Alternate Delta Plan with statewide water, business, and agricultural interests through the Ag-Urban Coalition. We respectfully urge the council to fully consider our concerns and discuss the Alternate Delta Plan. We also urge council members to work with the coalition to identify the best options for meeting the co-equal goals of improved water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Monte Vista Water District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark N. Kinsey', written over a horizontal line.

Mark N. Kinsey
General Manager

cc: Association of California Water Agencies