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June 14, 2011

Joe Grindstaff
Executive Officer
Delta Stewardship Council
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO INCLUDE ALTERNATE DELTA PLAN AS A PROJECT ALTERNATIVE IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Members of the Council:

A coalition of agencies and organizations representing the interests of water agencies, businesses, and farms from throughout the state submitted an Alternate Delta Plan to the Council on June 10, 2011, and requested that the Council include the Alternate Delta Plan as a project alternative in the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Delta Plan.

We, Rancho California Water District (RCWD), have had a chance to review the Alternate Delta Plan and we fully support its inclusion as a project alternative in the draft EIR. The Alternate Delta Plan lays out a truly comprehensive approach to achieving the co-equal goals that we believe warrants full discussion by the Council.

RCWD has been following the prior drafts of the Delta Plan as well as the many comments submitted pointing out flaws and inconsistencies with the Delta Stewardship Council's legislated charge and authority. We are disturbed and dismayed that important portions of these comments appear to have gone unheeded. We continue to wonder whether the notion of "co-equal goals" is nothing more than a convenient political myth meant to pacify us as the proceedings move on to inevitably wrench more water supply away from the economy of California. The apparent truth behind this myth is that some co-equal goals are "more co-equal than others". The only way they can remain co-equal is under the leadership and commitment of those charged with developing and pursuing the Delta Plan.

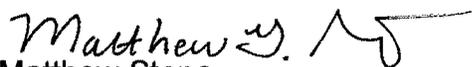
We believe including the Alternate Delta Plan as a project alternative in the draft EIR will ensure the Council has a complete range of options to consider as it formulates the final Delta Plan by the January 1, 2012 deadline.

Accordingly, we request that Council include the Alternate Delta Plan in its entirety as a project alternative in the draft EIR for the Delta Plan.

We remain committed to working with the Council as a partner in developing a plan that can further the achievement of the co-equal goals of ecosystem restoration and water supply reliability.

Sincerely,

RANCHO CALIFORNIA WATER DISTRICT


Matthew Stone
General Manager

cc: Delta Stewardship Council Members