

ROR008 Farm Bureau Delta Caucus



November 28, 2012

Phil Isenberg, Chairman, and Council Members
Delta Stewardship Council
Attn: Re-circulated Draft PEIR Comments
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, California 95814

Sent Via Email: recirculateddpeircomments@deltacouncil.ca.gov

RE: REQUEST FOR TIME EXTENSION TO COMMENT PERIODS ON THE FINAL DELTA PLAN, SUPPLEMENT TO DRAFT PROGRAM EIR, AND DRAFT REGULATIONS FOR FINAL DELTA PLAN

At your meeting of November 15, 2012, the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) announced that the concurrent public review periods for the DSC's Final Delta Plan (FDP), the Supplement to the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the Final Delta Plan (SPEIR), and the corresponding Draft Regulations (DR) released by the California Office of Administrative Law will run for 45 days, from November 30, 2012 through January 14, 2013.

The Farm Bureau's Delta Caucus (Delta Caucus) intends to thoroughly review and comment on the above-referenced documents. However, due to the complexity, importance, and significance of these documents on the five-county agricultural region, and the fact that the review periods fall during a major holiday season, the Delta Caucus is respectfully and officially requesting that the DSC extend the concurrent public review periods for an additional 90 days, ending on April 15, 2013. Also, as a nonprofit, we are limited in our staff resources and need to coordinate with external legal professionals and consultants to facilitate a meaningful review and response; therefore we are in need of an extension. ROR008-1

The Delta Caucus looks forward to your favorable response to our time extension request and is committed to our continued coordination with the DSC members and DSC staff in the review of these documents and the future adoption and implementation of the Delta Plan. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this request, please contact Delta Caucus representatives Katie Patterson (209) 931-4931 or Charlotte Mitchell at (916) 685-6958.

Respectfully,

Russell E. van Löben Sels
Chairman

Response to comment ROR008-1

As the commenter noted, the review period for the Recirculated Draft PEIR began on November 30, 2012 and ended on January 14, 2013. CEQA guidelines, Section 15105 requires that review periods for draft EIRs should not be less than 30 days, and no longer than 60 days. The 45-day comment period is sufficient under CEQA statute and will not be extended.