CALIFORNIA natural resources AGENCY

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., *Governor*
JOHN LAIRD, *Secretary for Natural Resources*

August 9, 2011

David Hayes
US Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, MS-7229
Washington, DC 20240

Jane Lubchenco
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Room 7316
Washington, DC 20230

Dear ~~Mr. Hayes~~ David and ~~Ms. Lubchenco~~ Jane,

I am writing to express the importance of renewing our commitment to meeting the milestones that will lead to the timely completion of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). First, I would like to thank you for your leadership and the exceptional work of your agencies in helping to develop BDCP. While we have made significant progress, there is still more work to be done. To that end, I have attached the most current schedule for completing the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the BDCP, as well as a more detailed schedule for completing the Effects Analysis (Chapter 5 of the BDCP).

After much discussion amongst the state and federal agency representatives they have agreed to the attached schedule. I acknowledge that these schedules are aggressive. I believe that it will be most productive for us to focus immediately on completing the Effects Analysis by March 2012 and a draft EIR/EIS by June 2012 if not sooner. To achieve these goals, we must advance the decisions necessary to direct the work of our consulting team, and have key staff available from each of our agencies to review each deliverable as it is produced within the timeframe provided.

Adhering to this schedule will be challenging. We cannot allow expanded scope, revisiting of issues or uncertainty drive us to delay. Rather, we must be mindful of the great value of timely completion of a draft EIR/EIS to substantively engage the public on issues so vital California's environment and economy.

I look forward to our continued work together in successfully completing the BDCP.

Sincerely,

John Laird
Secretary for Natural Resources

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BDCP EIR/EIS Schedule
8/9/11

Task	Date to Agencies	Review Complete
BDCP: EIR/EIS Work Plan and Section Review		
Prepare Work Plan and Schedule	12-Aug-11	26-Aug-11
BDCP: Alternatives Descriptions		
Prepare Alternatives Description	2-Sep-11	16-Sep-11
BDCP: Admin Draft EIR/EIS		
Prepare Batch A Chapters (e.g., Social Environment)	11-Nov-11	9-Dec-11
Prepare Batch B Chapters (e.g., Physical Environment)	7-Dec-11	4-Jan-12
Prepare Batch C Chapters (e.g., Aquatics, Terrestrial, Surface Water, Water Quality, and Supply)	27-Feb-12	27-Mar-12
1st Admin Draft and Review (Includes comments on batches A & B)	27-Feb-12	26-Apr-12
2nd Admin Draft and Review	9-May-12	4-Jun-12
Check Copy	11-Jun-12	17-Jun-12
File Public Draft EIR/EIS with EPA	22-Jun-12	28-Jun-12
EPA Publishes Draft EIS	29-Jun-12	
BDCP: Draft Public Review Period		
Public Review and Conduct Hearings (90 days)	29-Jun-12	26-Sep-12
BDCP: Response to Comments on Draft EIR/EIS		
Prepare Responses to Comments	12-Oct-12	26-Oct-12
Initiate Formal Consultation	2-Oct-12	
BDCP: Prepare Final EIR/EIS		
Prepare Admin Draft Final EIR/EIS	15-Nov-12	29-Nov-12
Prepare Final EIR/EIS	20-Dec-12	20-Dec-12
BDCP: Final EIR/EIS Review		
Public Review and Conduct Hearings (30 days)	20-Dec-12	18-Jan-13
Prepare Responses to Comments	4-Feb-13	15-Feb-13
Prepare ROD (Final EIR/EIS Complete)	15-Feb-13	

BDCP Chapter 5 (Effects Analysis) Schedule
8/9/11

Task	Date to Agencies	Review Complete
BDCP: Chapter 5: Conceptual Foundation & Analytical Framework		
Technical Appendix (Conceptual Foundation)	8-Aug-11	24-Aug-11
Technical Appendix (Analytical Framework)	8-Aug-11	24-Aug-11
BDCP: Chapter 5: Entrainment		
Technical Appendix (Entrainment)	24-Aug-11	14-Sep-11
Delta Science Review (C. Foundation, A. Framework, Entrainment)	15-Sep-11	14-Oct-11
BDCP: Chapter 5: Flow, Passage, & Salinity		
Technical Appendix (Flow, Passage & Salinity)	30-Sep-11	21-Oct-11
BDCP: Chapter 5: Water Quality		
Technical Appendix (Water Quality)	14-Oct-11	4-Nov-11
BDCP: Chapter 5: Fish Population Analysis		
Technical Appendix (Fish Population Analysis)	25-Nov-11	16-Dec-11
BDCP: Chapter 5: Habitat Restoration		
Technical Appendix (Habitat Restoration)	16-Dec-11	6-Jan-12
BDCP: Chapter 5: Ecological Effects		
Technical Appendix (Ecological Effects)	16-Dec-11	20-Jan-12
BDCP: Chapter 5: Appendix - Analysis Not Used		
Technical Appendix (Analysis Not Used)	16-Dec-11	6-Jan-12
BDCP: Chapter 5: Terrestrial Species Analysis		
Technical Appendix (Terrestrial Species Analysis)	16-Nov-11	16-Jan-12
BDCP Chapter 5 (Roll-up)		
Agency and Delta Science Review	27-Feb-12	27-Mar-12
BDCP Chapter 5 (Effects Analysis)		
Chapter 5 Complete	9-Apr-12	