

# SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY



May 6, 2011

Phil Isenberg, Chair  
Delta Stewardship Council  
980 Ninth St. Suite 1500  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Comments on Third Draft Delta Plan

Dear Chair Isenberg and Council Members:

The California Department of Water Resources is developing an Environmental Impact Report and the permitting of the North Bay Aqueduct Alternate Intake Project that will be part of the State Water Project. The Alternate Intake Project consists of a new pumping plant on the Sacramento River just south of West Sacramento and an underground pipeline to a location near Fairfield. The project has the benefit of providing an alternate location to withdraw water for the North Bay Aqueduct that has much less impact on endangered species (delta and longfin smelt) and provides improved drinking water quality (reduced organic carbon and turbidity). The existing pumping plant for the North Bay Aqueduct is located in Cache Slough, a key tidal wetland restoration area, where new restoration projects will aggravate problems with endangered species and drinking water quality for the North Bay Aqueduct.

My question is whether the Delta Plan should consider the Alternate Intake Project in the Delta Plan. I believe the project will be a covered action and will need a consistency document. Is it the intent of the DSC to include such proposed facilities in the Delta Plan at this time?

I would suggest that the Delta Plan should include a short description of the North Bay Aqueduct Alternate Intake Project with a finding that acknowledges the benefits of the project and incorporates it into the Delta Plan.

I believe an appropriate location to do this is in Chapter 4 (A more Reliable Water Supply) under the heading "Statewide Storage and Conveyance".

Suggested language:

The North Bay Aqueduct Alternate Intake Project consists of a new pumping plant on the Sacramento River just south of West Sacramento and an underground pipeline to a location near Fairfield. The project has the benefit of providing an alternate location to withdraw water for the North Bay Aqueduct

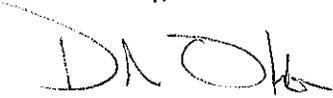
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of the State Water Project that has much less impact on endangered species (delta and longfin smelt) and provides improved drinking water quality (reduced organic carbon and turbidity). The existing pumping plant for the North Bay Aqueduct is located in Cache Slough, a key tidal wetland restoration area, where new restoration projects will aggravate problems with endangered species and drinking water quality for the North Bay Aqueduct. The Council recommends that this project be implemented.

If you have any question, please contact me a 707 455-1103 or by email at [dokita@scwa2.com](mailto:dokita@scwa2.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Okita". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

David Okita, General Manager