

**From:** [Peter Sustarich](#)  
**To:** [Delta Council Delta Plan Comments](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on Delta plan  
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To whom it may concern:

It seems to me that water is the property of all Californians and I agree that we ALL must be good stewards of water and the environment around water and the delivery system. My comments on the Delta Plan focus around 1) water alternatives and 2) profitability.

1) Alternatives?? Unless I missed something in the Plan, aside from the stated "hope" of future conservation, there were no other alternatives for water supply. Specifically **water desalination** comes to mind. There are numerous articles of success stories and specifically one with a company called IDE from Israel that has built the largest desalination project in China that is an apparent success story. The new process uses a fraction of power that historically was used to convert sea water to fresh water and there is an unlimited supply of sea water, right!! It seems that newer technology desalination plants could be used with a pipeline network from the coast to the various areas needed. I don't know the precise feasibility of desalination in California so my comment/question is, was the desalination option explored? And if yes, was it studied in a current time frame to incorporate new technology that is apparently working around the world and most recently the project in China? Such an option would not rely on the concerns stated in the Delta Plan such as the amount of rainfall, water flow that feeds the Delta and security of levee system, but "could" afford a limitless source of water to the needed areas.

2) Profitability by 3rd parties?? I have heard that the water that currently comes from the Delta goes down south and is somehow being "resold" by a "third party middle man" via a contractual arrangement with the State. Then this company resells the "people's" water and has apparently recorded huge profits. To my knowledge, past State projects like Hetch Hetchy do not go thru any sort of middle man that can make excessive profit off of something that All of Californian's pay for. My question is why does a "third party middle man" benefit from a commodity like water especially if the product (water and delivery of water) is funded by tax payers? If a contract is let by the State to a third party for some type of service that they provide as a "middle man", then shouldn't the profit margin be limited to a reasonable margin? To me this is no different than the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) limiting the profit margin on companies that provide Electric, Gas, and Telecommunications (PG&E, ATT, SoCal Edison, etc, etc).

Thank you in advance.

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