



### **Delta Counties Coalition**

Contra Costa County · Sacramento County · San Joaquin County · Solano County · Yolo County

*"Working together on water and Delta issues"*

June 15, 2017

John Watts  
Office of Senator Dianne Feinstein  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Watts:

The Delta Counties Coalition (DCC) thanks you for meeting with us last month. In light of the significance and complexity of the water management challenges our region and the State face, the DCC very much appreciates an ongoing dialogue with you.

California's historic flooding and multi-year drought demonstrate the urgent need to develop a shared solution to the problems of an inadequate State water supply, poor Delta water quality, and a threatened Delta ecosystem. Unfortunately, the State's twin tunnels project (CA WaterFix) is not representative of the type of shared solution that California desperately needs, as it provides no guarantee of "new" water and would only serve to increase the demands on an already stressed and fragile Delta environment. As such, if the Senator elects to take a position on the WaterFix, we hope it will be in opposition.

As we discussed during our meeting, the DCC is focused on developing a comprehensive water-management plan that produces performance based, multiple-benefit projects that would be more practical and pragmatic for the future of California and the Delta. There are dozens of projects that are readily identified and that are simply in need of funding to proceed with planning, design, and construction, including projects that improve water supply, protect Delta levees, restore environmental habitat both in the Delta and upstream, and help meet clean water goals in both the near-term and long-term timeframes. The DCC strongly believes that the massive commitment of funds that would be needed by the State to re-plumb the Delta would be far better spent on these and other multi-benefit projects, many of which could be implemented at a cumulative cost to the State and its taxpayers/ratepayers at far less cost than the WaterFix.

In order to further analyze and quantify the benefits of the alternative projects, the DCC is currently working with Dr. Jeffrey Michael with the University of the Pacific. We will share Dr. Michael's analysis with you once completed.

John Watts  
June 15, 2017  
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Thank you again for meeting with the DCC. We look forward to working with you and Senator Feinstein on shared solutions to California's water challenges.


Sincerely,



Don Nottoli  
Supervisor, Sacramento County



Skip Thomson  
Supervisor, Solano County



Karen Mitchoff  
Supervisor, Contra Costa  
County



Oscar Villegas  
Supervisor, Yolo County



Chuck Winn  
Supervisor, San Joaquin County