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From: Norma Buckley (nkb.rgb@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
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Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 5:08 PM

To: Board of Directors <board@valleywater.org>

Subject: Please Vote NO on Delta Tunnel Funding

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Dear Chair Estremera and the Board of Directors,

I am writing to urge Valley Water not to allocate any additional funds to the proposed Delta Conveyance Project and vote no on Agenda Item 3.5.

The Delta tunnel project is a proposal to construct a single underground tunnel to divert millions of acre-feet of freshwater that would otherwise flow naturally through the Bay-Delta, diverting up to 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from the Sacramento River without preserving sufficient flows for salmon species and Delta smelt.

For years, the Bay-Delta ecosystem has been severely depleted of its essential freshwater flows, causing the destruction of natural habitat for endemic species and worsening the livelihood of residents in Delta communities. This project will absolutely hasten the decline of the Delta.

Ratepayers will face increased water bills and property taxes, with no assurance of a sustainable water supply if Valley Water continues to spend millions of dollars - nearly \$650 million by the final construction vote - on this project! Remember that the board is ultimately accountable to their ratepayers who do not want their bills to rise amid an era of constant inflation and an affordability crisis.

The Delta tunnel project is an expensive and environmentally harmful project - failing to ensure new water resources in a time of climate change. Valley Water must prioritize limited public funds for projects that will deliver tangible improvements in water security and the overall health of the Delta.

I urge you to make a responsible and informed decision by rejecting this funding, and voting NO on Agenda Item 3.5.

Sincerely,
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