

## Max Overland

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**Subject:** FW: Delta Tunnel is a bad idea

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**From:** Kristin Mercer <[tomerker@comcast.net](mailto:tomerker@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 20, 2024 4:00 PM

**To:** Board of Directors <[board@valleywater.org](mailto:board@valleywater.org)>

**Subject:** Delta Tunnel is a bad idea

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Dear Board of Directors,

Human engineered alterations of nature's water systems are a bad idea. Communities are now awakening to the reality that these attempts not only damage the environment, they are ultimately futile. The Army Corps of Engineering projects on the Mississippi have only enabled poor land-use decisions and wasted billions to shore up repeatedly failing levies. The Florida Everglades have been nearly eliminated despite promises that diversions would be replenished naturally. The Yangtze Three Gorges Dam has created a toxic backwater. The Colorado River no longer reaches the sea. On the Columbia and Klamath rivers dams are now being removed after the realization that **the harm far outweighed the benefits**.

Please put a stop to the ill-conceived Delta Tunnel once and for all; too much money has already been wasted in studies seeking to justify the exploitation of nature for the greed of industry. A far more forward-thinking policy would be to invest in water-use reduction and reuse, relocate water-intense uses to wetter regions, develop desalinization in coastal communities, and simply let low-supply and the high cost of water curb development where water is not naturally available. Humans need to start conforming to our environment instead of forcing our engineered solutions on nature. Nature always wins and the folly of ill-conceived engineering projects becomes obvious in the end.

Thank you for voting NO on the Delta Tunnel.

Kristin Mercer

Belmont, CA



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