

Melissa Stone

From: Katja Irvin <katja.irvin@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 6:11 PM
To: Clerk of the Board; Board of Directors
Cc: 'James Eggers'; 'Mike Ferreira'
Subject: Oct 17 2017 agenda Item 2.5 comments

To: Board of Directors, Santa Clara Valley Water District
[via e-mail]

The staff recommendations and Board-initiated resolution show that you have listened to some degree to the many stakeholders who have come and explained the risks and likely problems that will surface with the twin tunnels project. And we appreciate that you are putting on the table today a more cautious approach that draws a line on SCVWD participation and cost.

Of course, we still have concerns. Our biggest concern is that SCVWD is still not in concert with the Delta Reform Act. Eight years ago in 2009, the Act directed Delta users to reduce reliance on the Delta. And here we are today with a staff report saying we need the WaterFix so we can continue to export the same amount as always, 170,000 acre feet per year.

This is 40,000 acre feet per year that should be returned to the Delta and to the San Francisco Bay Estuary. The Water Supply Master Plan provides other options to make up the difference, and you, the Board, have already approved a no regrets package that can make up some of the difference.

We truly hope the District will acknowledge and discuss the Delta Reform Act in a future staff report. If Los Angeles and San Diego and Orange County can do it, we can too.

We are also concerned about all the other infrastructure needed to provide our imported water. There's Oroville and there's canals and pump stations and San Luis Reservoir and conduits and reservoirs in Alameda and Santa Clara counties. A lot of people think DWR and SCVWD need to make sure our current infrastructure is brought to a state of good repair before we start building a huge new infrastructure project.

We urge you to keep in mind as you negotiate with the Department of Water Resources and other South of Delta exporters that you do have alternatives to participation in this project. You can continue to re-evaluate if this is really the best solution for Santa Clara County.

We also request regular updates to the Board and the public as negotiations move forward. Monthly agenda items should be scheduled to allow for discussion, and regular updates should be posted in the CEO Bulletin.

Thank you for making sure we have the most innovative, resilient, and secure water supply for the future of Santa Clara County.

Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
James Eggers, Chapter Director
Katja Irvin, Water Committee

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