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July 26, 2016

Felicia Marcus, Hearing Officer Tam Doduc, Hearing Officer California Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street Sacramento 95814

California Water Resources Control Board P.O. Box 100 Sacramento 95812

RE: Member of the Public Opposition to the California Water Fix Delta Twin Tunnels Project Submitted Via Mail, Office of Public Affairs at Fax (916) 341-5252, and Email to <u>CWFhearing@waterboards.ca.gov</u> for California Water Resources Board Public Hearings Set for July 26, 27, 28, & 29, 2016 Parts 1A & Parts 1B

Dear Members of the State Water Board and Hearing Officers:

As residents of Northern California, we are appalled and opposed to the potential destruction of the Sacramento Delta with Governor Jerry Brown's plan to build an <u>underestimated \$15.5 billion dollar</u> <u>pet project</u> to destroy the vital Delta ecosystem to shift Northern California Water to Southern California residents. As residents of Elk Grove, our water rates continue to increase at an alarming rate that does not keep up with our Social Security fixed incomes.

When the drought ballot measures were put forth, they were absolutely silent on the subject that they actually endorsed the Delta Twin Tunnels project to confuse the voter electorate who only saw it as a measure to deal with the drought. The ballot measures did not truthfully outline the underhanded plan to shift Northern California water to Southern California as the major proposed fix to our drought. The ballot measures were a virtual lie to the public with no mention of the Delta Twin Tunnels project as a direct outcome of passage of those ballot initiatives.

As other environmental groups and opponents, including, but not limited to Congressman John Garamendi who referred to the tunnels as a "multi-billion boondoggle," have already sent in detailed letters opposing the Delta Twin Tunnels project with specific details of the negative impact it will have on Connie Arnold Roy and Jean Arnold July 26, 2016 Public Comment to California Water Resources Board Page 2:

the fragile Delta ecosystem, endangered species, water quality, and the overall costs to California taxpayers and ratepayers of such a disastrous water project with corporate agribusiness, fracking oil interests, and labor unions as project primary beneficiaries, we will not reiterate the basis of their testimony herein. However, we append this letter to incorporate their justified opposition to the Delta Twin Tunnels! We stand with all other opponents to the terrible and underestimated costly Delta Twin Tunnels plan. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan is a misnomer in relation to the Delta Twin Tunnels plan which is simply another lie promoted by Governor Jerry Brown and special interests perpetrated against the public to obscure the truth that the Twin Tunnels represent a conservation of the Bay and Delta which is farthest from the truth!

We are staunch opponents of the Delta Twin Tunnels project in the growing voices that oppose it and the water grab by the Municipal Water Agency of Southern California. Recently, that water agency who has received a go-ahead to purchase five islands off of the Delta with plans to use the land for purposes that promote the building of the Delta Twin Tunnels. As a voting member of the public, we are sickened by the idea that the Delta Twin Tunnels may be built if the growing voices of opposition cannot put an end to this devastating plan.

As previously stated by other opponents, "[t]he California Water Fix does not meet goals inherent in the Delta Reform Act, the Clean Water Act, or the Endangered Species Act. In fact, the tunnels will go against the grain of these acts by draining water from the San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary. In this way, water will not be provided to those that need it most."

Protect our rivers and stop the Delta twin-tunnels project! Rivers are vital parts of our economy, recreational opportunities, endangered species, and water quality. These fragile ecosystems need to be protected from special interests such as corporate agribusiness, Big Oil fracking interests, and those who would financially benefit from their overall destruction in the interest of their profit motives from labor unions to Nestle and other water bottling companies.

For the above reasons, we, the undersigned, ask you to oppose the Delta Twin Tunnels by voting to abandon the tunnels project and instead seek viable alternatives and approaches to save water in drought years that will not wreak havoc on the precious Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta environment, taxpayers and ratepayers, and violate existing federal and state laws meant to protect the environment and our states' water quality.

Respectfully Submitted, much Connie Arnold

Roy Arnold

Jean Arnold