



SACRAMENTO COUNTY FARM BUREAU

PUTTING THE FOOD ON YOUR FORK SINCE 1917

December 15, 2017

Ms. Felicia Marcus, California WaterFix Project Co-Hearing Officer
Ms. Tam Doduc, California WaterFix Project Co-Hearing Officer
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

RE: Sacramento County Farm Bureau's Statement Against the "CA WaterFix"/Delta Tunnels

Dear Co-Hearing Officer Marcus and Co-Hearing Officer Doduc:

On behalf of the Sacramento County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, I wish to add my voice to a growing chorus of opposition to the so-called California WaterFix.

A recent Town Hall Forum hosted by Assemblyman Jim Frazier (*D-Discovery Bay*) and Senator Bill Dodd (*D-Napa*) revealed mounting financial troubles and questionable management concerns surrounding this project.

This forum highlighted a recent audit by the Office of State Auditor Elaine M. Howle, which discovered significant and unjustifiable cost increases and delays associated with the project and cited the failure of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to complete a basic economic analysis to justify the WaterFix project. The audit also discovered serious mismanagement issues at the highest levels of DWR, and a failure to follow state law when making key decisions about managing the project.

A project that threatens to export 15,000 cubic feet per second of water from the Delta would effectively drain this precious resource, destroy farming communities that have been in place since the California Gold Rush, deposit mountains of chemically-laced sludge that will be unearthed by the tunneling process and turn the Delta into another Owens Valley environmental catastrophe.

With support rapidly dwindling for this project, costs estimated at anywhere from \$17-\$200 billion, major stakeholders refusing to commit to any funding, no support from the Trump Administration and multiple lawsuits filed by farmers and ranchers, cities, communities and other organizations opposed to this massive water grab, the SCFB urges a halt to the tunnel process, and for the State Water Resources Board to instead focus on other solutions.

Sincerely,

Bill Bird
Executive Director
Sacramento County Farm Bureau