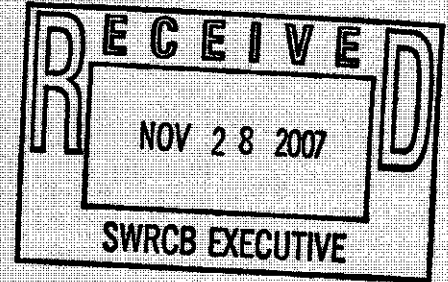




california water impact network



Caroline K. Krieger
president

November 27, 2007

Lisa Coffman
executive director

Tam Doduc, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
Via Email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

Dorothy Green
secretary

Joan Markmann
treasurer

Lloyd G. Carter
director

Re: December 4, 2007 Board Meeting, Agenda Item No. 18 (Consideration of a Draft Resolution specifying actions the Water Boards will take to protect beneficial uses of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary)

Malinda Chouinard
director

Dear Chairwoman Doduc:

Yvon Chouinard
director

Jim Edmondson
director

Michael Jackson
director

Huey Johnson
director

Tom Stokely
director

The California Water Impact Network (C-WIN) wholeheartedly supports the adoption of the proposed resolution specifying actions the Water Boards will take to protect beneficial uses of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento San-Joaquin Estuary (agenda item #18). C-WIN has joined numerous other organizations in a general letter of support, sent under separate cover, urging adoption of this resolution. I write separately to emphasize the importance of Item 6 of the draft resolution, which calls for the initiation of a public trust proceeding to:

- (1) consider the protection of public trust resources and the balancing of the competing demands for water in and from the Bay-Delta; and
- (2) evaluate the reasonableness of the SWP's and CVP's method of diversion from the Delta.

C-WIN believes that a public trust proceeding will be a necessary step in the process of achieving an equitable and environmentally sensitive Delta management regime. No other planning process (save, perhaps, a legislative solution of unprecedented scope and courage) is capable of holistically protecting public trust interests in the Delta. A public trust proceeding offers a unique opportunity to advance a comprehensive approach to balancing competing water uses.

C-WIN also believes that a public trust proceeding is probably unavoidable under the circumstances. The only question is whether such a process will come about at the Water Boards' initiation. Should the Boards decline to pursue such a proceeding on their own, others stand ready and willing to step in to initiate the process from the outside. The former would be far preferable for many reasons, not the least of which being the fact that a Board-initiated proceeding would help to solidify the SWRCB's central role in the most critical California water policy discussion of our lifetimes -- the fate of the Delta.

Tam Doduc, Chair, SWRCB
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In sum, C-WIN urges the SWRCB to adopt the draft resolution presented as agenda item #18 in its entirety. C-WIN looks forward to participating in this process and the processes that will follow from adoption of the resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Coffman", is placed over a rectangular area with a fine grid pattern.

Lisa Coffman
Executive Director