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**CC:** "Dorn. Linda (SDA)" <dornl@sacsewer.com>  
**Date:** 7/5/2012 3:07 PM  
**Subject:** SRCSD Comments on Bay-Delta Workshop Panels  
**Attachments:** 07 05 12 SRCSD Participants for 9-12 workshops.pdf

Attached is a comment letter from the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) regarding selection of the participants for the upcoming Bay-Delta workshops. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Dorn, Environmental Program Manager, at dornl@sacsewer.com<mailto:dornl@sacsewer.com> or 916-876-6030.

Vicki Brennan  
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Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District  
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July 5, 2012

Dr. Brock Bernstein  
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Submitted electronically to [Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov)

Dear Dr. Bernstein:

The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) appreciates the opportunity to provide input for the upcoming workshops on the Comprehensive (Phase 2) Review of the Bay-Delta Plan. We are concerned that the proposed stakeholder panels will not allow for a thorough and balanced scientific discussion among the participants. To facilitate a more balanced discussion at the workshops, we are requesting the addition of a panel dedicated to water quality related to regulated dischargers (i.e., "Regulated Water Quality Panel"). Permitted dischargers in the Bay-Delta have a perspective that is different from water quality issues related to water exporters. Addressing water quality issues from a regulated discharger's perspective will allow for a voice to be heard on recent research related to potential causes of the pelagic organism decline that might not otherwise be heard.

**Board of Directors**  
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As indicated in our June 8<sup>th</sup> letter, SRCSD suggests consideration of a different overall format for the panel discussions than is being proposed. SRCSD, which participated significantly in the 2010 Delta Flow Criteria proceedings, supports following a similar panel organization that was used in those proceedings, which focused panels by issue or topic area. Organizing a panel by an issue, such as hydrodynamics/hydrology, ecosystem restoration, water quality, etc. and asking the same questions of various scientific experts as have been proposed in the notice would allow for multiple and diverse scientific opinions to be heard on various aspects of one issue. In 2010, this gave Board members the opportunity to hear and participate in high level scientific debate on key issues. It is not clear that the currently proposed format will provide that opportunity.

*Participants for Ecosystem Changes and Low Salinity Zone and Bay-Delta Fishery Resources Workshops*

We are pleased to recommend participants for the Bay-Delta Plan update panels. Following are our suggestions for panel participants at the Ecosystem Changes and the Low Salinity Zone and Bay-Delta Fishery Resources workshops, preferably representing regulated water quality entities on a Regulated Water

- Stan Dean  
District Engineer
- Ruben Robles  
Director of Operations
- Prabhakar Somavarapu  
Director of Policy & Planning
- Karen Stoyanowski  
Director of Internal Services
- Joseph Maestretti  
Chief Financial Officer
- Claudia Goss  
Public Affairs Manager

Quality Panel. We respectfully request that our recommended participants be placed on a panel that you deem appropriate if Regulated Water Quality Panel is not established.

- Dr. Mike Bryan, Robertson-Bryan Inc., has over 21 years of combined consulting and research experience primarily in water quality, toxicology, and fisheries biology.
- Dr. Diana Engle, Larry Walker Associates Inc., has over 20 years experience in the fields of aquatic ecology and biogeochemistry.
- Dr. Michael Connor, General Manager of East Bay Dischargers Authority on one or more of the panels. Dr. Connor, the past Executive Director of San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI), is an active participant in the Suisun Bay studies and the development of a nutrient management strategy for San Francisco Bay.

Additionally, we recommend that the following expert Delta scientists be included as panel members, either on the Peter Goodwin panel or on one of the other panels. These individuals are recognized Delta experts whose opinions should be heard on a number of the topics that have been identified:

- Dr. James Cloern, USGS – a nationally renowned expert in Bay-Delta aquatic ecology;
- Dr. Wim Kimmerer, Romberg Tiburon Center – an expert in Delta aquatic ecology and fisheries;
- Dr. William Bennett, University of California – an expert in Delta smelt;
- Dr. Peter Moyle, UCD – an expert in Delta fisheries; and
- Dr. Jan Thompson, USGS – an expert in invasive clams.

We also recommend considering members of the San Francisco Bay Nutrient Numeric Endpoint science team (comprised of scientists from SFEI and Southern California Coastal Water Research Project) for either the Delta Science Program invited panel or the stakeholder panels. These organizations are known for their scientific prowess and independence. We do not have any one individual to recommend from these organizations, but want you to understand that we would support their selection for panel participation at the ecosystem and fisheries workshops, either as invited panelists or as stakeholder panelists.

In conclusion, SRCSD believes that an additional panel for regulated water quality entities would balance the currently proposed panels. SRCSD serves over a million people in the Delta region and it plays a vital role in the Delta discussion. Therefore, we request that our recommended participants be placed on the Bay-Delta Plan Update panels.

We again thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the workshops that will inform and prepare the Board members to make the hard balancing decisions when updating the Bay-Delta Plan. If you need further information, please contact me at (916) 876-6030, or [dornl@sacsewer.com](mailto:dornl@sacsewer.com).

Sincerely,



Linda Dorn  
Environmental Program Manager

cc: Stan Dean, District Engineer  
Prabhakar Somavarapu, Director of Policy and Planning  
Terrie Mitchell, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager  
Kurt Ohlinger, Chief Scientist