

December 16, 2016

Submitted via email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov



Ms. Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Subject: Supplemental Comment Letter – Bay-Delta Phase II Working Draft Science Report

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The State Water Contractors (“SWC”) appreciate this opportunity to provide additional input regarding the Working Draft Scientific Basis Report for New and Revised Flow Requirements on the Sacramento River and Tributaries, Eastside Tributaries to the Delta, Delta Outflow, and Interior Delta Operations (“Phase II Report”). The SWC submit these comments on their own behalf and on behalf of the SWC’s 27 member agencies.¹ The comments contained herein supplement the comments previously supplied to the State Water Resources Control Board (“Water Board”) on December 15, 2016.

Comments

The statement is made on page 2-57 that “The barriers can also create areas of null flows (flows with no upstream or downstream motion) in the interior sections of the channels.” The SWC have worked with the Department of Water Resources in analyzing this issue and have previously provided information on this topic to Water Board staff. The hydrodynamic modeling analysis indicates that for the most part, the barriers result in moving the location of null zones, but do not cause the null zones. The nulls zones are caused by the fact that high south Delta irrigation demands often exceed the amount of inflow from the San Joaquin River. It is only during limited periods when the Head of Old River barrier reduces San Joaquin River inflow into the south Delta that the barriers could be said to cause areas of null flow.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Erlewine
General Manager

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¹ Alameda County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, Zone 7, Alameda County Water District, Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency, Casitas Municipal Water District, Castaic Lake Water Agency, Central Coast Water Authority, City of Yuba City, Coachella Valley Water District, County of Kings, Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency, Desert Water Agency, Dudley Ridge Water District, Empire, West Side Irrigation District, Kern County Water Agency, Littlerock Creek Irrigation District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Mojave Water Agency, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Oak Flat Water District, Palmdale Water District, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, San Geronio Pass Water Agency, San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Santa Clara Valley Water District, Solano County Water Agency, and Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District.