

From: [Mary Lou Rosczyk](#)
To: [DL-Board Support Team](#)
Subject: Bay Delta Conveyance Project
Date: Tuesday, December 1, 2020 6:40:55 PM

Honorable Members of the Bay Delta Committee and Other Members of MWD Board of Directors,

I urge the Bay Delta Committee on December 7, 2020 as well as the MWD Board of Directors on December 8, 2020 to vote NO on funding the Bay Delta Conveyance Project. First of all ratepayers will be shouldering the \$16 billion to a projected \$40 billion estimated cost. In Southern California, thanks to smart water usage and storage, we are using the same amount of water today that we used in the 1970's. Ratepayers should not be subsidizing profligate water usage by agribusiness. The water we have must be sustainably managed for fish and wildlife as well as farmers. The Delta Smelt is on the brink of extinction; 60% of the water needs to stay in the Sacramento River and Delta estuaries to enable salmon to successfully migrate. The environmental impacts will be horrendous at the intake site. During the 16 year estimated construction time, trucks will be passing through every two minutes six days a week. Because the tunnel diameter would be 39 feet wide and a depth of 190 feet, this excavated muck would form a berm 15 to 25 foot high occupying 240 acres. In addition to ratepayer expense as well as damage and pollution to the environment at the intake site, consideration must be given to environmental justice. Indigenous tribes living along the tributaries of the Sacramento River depend upon these rivers and the fish in them for their livelihood and cultural survival. Riparian rights as well as appropriative priority rights are part of California water law. Native Americans have a right to sustainable levels of water in these rivers. Native Americans should be included in any discussions affecting water levels and sustainability of salmon fisheries.

There are more economical ways to manage California water. Infrastructure improvements and efficiency in irrigation would reduce demand by 30%. Crops that are less water intensive could replace high water use crops like rice and alfalfa, which are mainly exported to Asia. Thought must be given to increasing stormwater capture and re-claiming filthy groundwater and grey water. Desalinization of brackish water is less expensive than ocean water desalination. Degraded lands on the western side of the San Joaquin Valley should be reclaimed, retired and repurposed for more sustainable usage, like solar power production.

There are sensible ways to manage the precious water in our Bay Delta Estuary and rivers. The proposed Delta Conveyance Project is NOT one of them.

Respectfully,
Mary Lou Rosczyk
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