



June 13, 2012

Charlie Hoppin, Chair  
Francis Spivey-Weber, Vice Chair  
Tam M. Doduc, Member  
State Water Resources Control Board  
PO Box 100  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Comments of City of Lincoln on Supplemental Notice of Preparation and Notice of Scoping for the Update and Implementation of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary: Comprehensive Review

Dear Chair Hoppin and Members of the Board:

This letter is being submitted by the City of Lincoln ("Lincoln") in support of the scoping comments submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board ("Water Board") by Placer County Water Agency ("Agency"). Lincoln appreciates the opportunity to comment on the scope of the Water Board's planned update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan.

The residents and businesses of Lincoln are dependent on surface water supplies provided by the Agency to serve the City's municipal, industrial and domestic water uses. Virtually all surface water provided by the Agency during the summer and fall of each year is made available by storage of spring snowmelt runoff. A seasonal shift in flow criteria to a "more natural hydrograph," as has been suggested by some, would seriously compromise such water supplies.

Although Lincoln has a limited ability to pump groundwater, the amount of groundwater available is limited and would be further impaired by increased agricultural pumping by farmers whose surface water supplies would also be reduced as a result of this Water Board's decision concerning required Delta inflow.

Further, as the Agency has commented, any mandated seasonal shift in Delta outflow is likely to affect the reliability and cost of California's energy, with a secondary impact of declining air quality, particularly if valley farmers increasingly use fossil fueled generators to power groundwater pumps. Both of these issues are of concern to California's communities, including the City of Lincoln.

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The California Legislature recognized the need to preserve water availability for the continued growth and development of the areas in which it originates. The area of origin laws that it enacted were intended to protect the future of communities and industries upstream of the Delta and to ensure their continued economic viability. Lincoln urges the Water Board, in its consideration of Delta flow objectives, to take into full consideration the need for area of origin water supplies for the current and future needs of California's foothill and mountain communities; the very needs that the Legislature sought to protect.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scope of your Plan update. We look forward to reviewing your drafts and proposed Update.

Sincerely,



Spencer Short, Mayor  
CITY OF LINCOLN

pm

cc: Lincoln City Council

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