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**Date:** April 15, 2015 at 9:16:07 PM PDT  
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**Subject:** Delta Crop Idling Project

Good evening Frances

This email is provided to confirm our conversations over the last few days. As indicated early this afternoon, the Department cannot support the proposed Delta Crop Idling Project at this time. There are a number of concerns that in my opinion cannot be addressed in a timely manner. These concerns include: current hydrologic conditions in the Sacramento and San Joaquin river watersheds, the method of water conveyance to the District, underlying water rights to support the transfer, data and information to support WC 1810 findings and the very real threat of curtailments impact Pre-14 and riparian water rights in the near future.

The Department recognizes many parties have invested valuable time and resources into development and implementation of the proposed project. This effort has resulted in a better understanding of various concerns, some solutions and highlighted the need to continue working in a collaborative manner to address outstanding concerns and issues. As an example, progress has been made to address monitoring program elements, equipment, assumptions, costs and expected outcomes.

To capitalize on the progress that has been made, if the Sellers and Buyers wish to continue working toward developing a project that can provide water to be transferred, the Department proposes to develop a project work group. The work group would be charged with addressing concerns, finding viable solutions and determine appropriate timelines for project implementation.

The following are some of the project elements and concerns that have or should be addressed:

- • Monitoring Plan
- • Land management practices
- • Anticipated amount of real water
- • Mapping parcel/field information
- • Determining underlying water rights – Riparian or Pre-14
- • Conveyance Method(s)
- • USBR position
- • Transfer period
- • CEQA and/or NEPA

The Department is interested in continuing efforts to pursue the proposed or a revised project with interested parties. I can identify a Department point of contact to assist in developing the work group.

If you have additional questions, please contact me at (916) 654-6135.

Thank you again for your efforts to develop and implement this project.

Bill