

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
ANDY VIDAK  
FOURTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



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October 28, 2016

Honorable Felicia Marcus, Chair  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street, 26<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairwoman Marcus:

I am writing to express my grave concerns regarding recent draft staff recommendations that would allow upwards of 75 percent of the state's precious water to flow from the Sacramento River watershed out to the ocean.

As you know, the Central Valley continues to be devastated by the historic, multi-year drought that has been exacerbated by policies that put fish above families. The district I represent continues to have some of the highest poverty and unemployment rates in the nation.

Many of the folks I represent are standing in food lines to survive rather than working to grow food because of past decisions by the staff of the State Water Resources Control Board and other government bureaucracies far removed from the fields that provide the food that feeds the world.

I request that you reject the SWRCB staff recommendations and let water flow back to the breadbasket of the world so that people in the Valley can thrive instead of struggling to survive, instead of flushing this essential resource out to sea.

Chairwoman, I hope you will be earnest about considering human needs before making any final decisions. I urge you and your fellow board members to put human needs first.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andy Vidak".

Andy Vidak  
Senator, District 14