

July 14, 2016

To-State Water Resources Control Board

Hello  
But-

POLICY STATEMENT/LETTER – AGAINST THE SO-CALLED CALIFORNIA WATERFIX  
in Graham Connor is mo. older than Jerry Brown

So I'm not as sharp  
as never was

Our family has been living and farming in the delta for eight generations, that's 163 years of truly SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE. A great grandmother saw sturgeons against the white sand bottom of the Sacramento River. The COMMUNITY of farmers built the dikes. There was no government aid of any kind in those days. They fought for their land. They were sustained by hard work on deep, rich, well drained, salt free, number one soil, with very high quality water flowing by, this before any dams had been built.

The tunnel project is slated to send over 66 percent of the water it will divert to UNSUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE on salty, poorly drained, lower grade soil, where it takes a lot of high quality water just to push the toxic salts down out of the root zone. Contaminated drain water is still going into the San Joaquin delta where more than 41,000 acres of the Bay Delta Estuary are listed as impaired by selenium contamination.

Continuing to pump too much water from the delta by just changing the diversion point will not help the endangered fish or the ecosystem of the delta. The tunnel project is a way to literally get around the endangered species mandate and resume over-pumping water from the delta. I'm against permits being issued for a project that the EPA judged as not protecting the delta habitat. Dr. Jeff Michael director of the center for business and policy research at U O P stated "The water fix isn't a habitat conservation plan anymore. It didn't reach the standards of restoring and improving endangered species". Dr. Michael also stated "The water project is primarily an agricultural project thus the vast majority of the cost should be paid by farmers." The largest agricultural water district was willing to commit fraud to sell bonds just to pay for the basic planning of the tunnels thus receiving a very rare penalization from the Securities and Exchange Commission.

I don't trust the ability of the water users to pay the costs of this project that has increased 4 fold in the last few years.

I believe a lot more planning needs to be considered before tens of billions are spent with no benefit to the delta or its habitat. There are better alternatives that include protecting the Delta habitat, which has been stripped out of the California Water Fix. So I don't believe the tunnel project is a sustainable water fix of any kind and no fix at all for the delta. And I don't trust the construction cost projection for the tunnels nor do I trust a water district that committed fraud selling bonds to finance the tunnels. Big money and political <sup>clout</sup> ~~power~~ are hard to fight against. But when it comes to the disruption and destruction of so many Delta Communities with no protection of the habitat of the delta I believe there are better alternatives.

Conservation

I pray you bring your Total being and can be at total Humble inner peace with

Graham Connor and Family

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your decisions