

July 8, 2016

To: California Environmental Protection Agency, State Water Resources Control Board

I am a landscape artist. I have been painting images of Sacramento's rivers, farmland and the Delta for the last 25 years. My paintings of our natural treasures have been viewed in museums and galleries throughout California and across the country. My work is in the permanent collection of the Crocker Art Museum and has been widely sought by public, corporate and private entities. My paintings reflect the majesty of this region and hopefully speak to our collective appreciation of the environment.

The water transfers contemplated by the Twin Tunnels project may have a dramatic effect on ground water depletion resulting in increased soil and water salinity. Higher levels of salinity in Delta soils could result in losses of arable farmland and wildlife habitat leading to meaningful and long-term changes in the Delta landscape. The real world impacts, whether economic, environmental or aesthetic, could be lasting and severe.

I respectfully urge a NO vote on the proposal to create new intake facilities in the Delta. Rerouting the Sacramento River as contemplated would be abusive, hurtful and costly to all of us who love, cherish and respect our treasured water and farmland.

Sincerely,

Pat Mahony



