

July 15, 2016

Dear members of the State Water Board,

There are many ways to get more water for the state of California and the Delta Tunnels Project is simply not one of them. All building the Tunnels does is move existing water to other areas rather than creating more water which is what we need. One way to create more water, would be building desalination plants to remove the salt from the ocean water. In fact not only would desalination plants create more water, but they would also create more jobs that would be helpful rather than disastrous. Instead of having people maintaining and building environmentally unfriendly tunnels, these people would operate and maintain the desalination plants. Also, once the salt was removed from the water, it could be used for other purposes such as seasoning food.

The Delta Tunnels will create major inconveniences for boaters like my family and put more pollution in the air and water. In an attempt to mitigate the salinity increases in the Delta, salinity gates will be installed at many different places with high boat traffic such as Georgianna slough, Montezuma Slough and Old River. If salinity gates were in place, boats would have to radio ahead and request openings to pass through the gates. This would slow boat traffic down because boats would have to wait for the gates to open and shut on either side of the locks. Besides slowing the traffic down, it would also mean that there would be more pollution because the boats would be sitting and idling longer rather than traveling where they are going. Also, building the tunnels would mean a lot of tractors and other construction vehicles would be working long hours. With a lot of vehicles working at a time, there would be a lot of pollution in the air from the fuel.

Over all, the Delta Tunnels, or California Water Fix, is a bad plan that doesn't accomplish our state's goals such as producing more water and protecting recreation and the environment.

Sincerely,

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