



Members of the Water Resources Control Board:

I am very concerned about efforts to take water from Stanislaus and neighboring counties.

First, this water is necessary for our farmers to produce food. We have an obligation to use our fertile valley to the optimum level to provide food to the world, which we do. Diverting our water will impede our ability to make the most of the resources we have.

Second, this plan will divert water from the poorest area in the state, and one of the poorest areas in the nation, to benefit the wealthier areas of the state. While politicians debate whether richer citizens should pay higher taxes to benefit poorer citizens, no one believes that a reverse Robin Hood action is appropriate. Yet, the proposed action will do just that.

As Board Members, I hope you will fully consider the needs of the poorer counties who have already paid for infrastructure through our Irrigation Districts, and who need the water as the basis of our agricultural economy.

Sincerely,
Cindy Johnston
Modesto, CA 95350