

TEJON-CASTAC WATER DISTRICT

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DEC 22 2005

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*L. Snow*  
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December 9, 2005

Mr. Lester Snow, Director  
California Department of Water Resources  
1416 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5515

**RE: Support for South Delta Improvements Program**

Dear Director Snow,

The Tejon-Castac Water District supports the Department of Water Resources' South Delta Improvements Program (SDIP), because it is a responsible and balanced plan that will allow California to better utilize and integrate its existing water management infrastructure in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, while also protecting the environment. We urge you and key stakeholders to advance this critically needed program in a timely fashion, to enhance the state's water future.

As a local water district in the Southern San Joaquin Valley, Tejon-Castac is concerned about the long-term viability of the Delta ecosystem and its ability to deliver water to Central Valley and Southern California users. We believe the state must continue to pursue the projects and programs outlined in the CalFed Bay-Delta Program if it is to succeed in protecting and enhancing the Delta while ensuring a reliable long-term water supply. The SDIP is a critical component of the CalFed process that must be implemented.

The SDIP will construct seasonal tidal gates to protect fish and improve water circulation and quality in the Delta. It will dredge select Delta channels to improve water deliveries for local farmers, and it will provide the flexibility to shift the timing of State Water Project deliveries when surplus water is available and when it is environmentally safe to do so.

Again, we support the SDIP and encourage your department and all other stakeholders to advance and implement it as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



DENNIS MULLINS  
President

cc: The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor  
Mr. Mike Chrisman, Secretary, California Resources Agency  
Mr. Joe Grindstaff, Director, California Bay-Delta Authority  
Mr. Ryan Broddrick, Director, California Department of Fish and Game