

March 16, 2020

To: Kathryn Mallon, DCA Executive Director

cc: Karla Nemeth, Director CA Department of Water Resources

As a member of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC) for the Single Delta project representing South Delta Local Businesses, I am respectfully requesting that, due to the current national emergency regarding the Coronavirus outbreak, that the SEC be put on indefinite hold until this crisis is announced to be under control. Today my county along with other Bay Area and L.A. counties announced a significant lockdown.

As I and the other members of the SEC have expressed during the meetings, this project, like the California WaterFix and the Bay and Delta Conservation Plan before it, have been a source of extreme anguish on those of us who would be so negatively affected by it. The Central Corridor especially will impose significant economic impact on the community of Discovery Bay and on other communities and farmers throughout the Delta. I was unable to attend the March 11 meeting but heard about the anguish described by our two Native American SEC members when listening to plans for the destruction of the Delta area. Believe me, we are all suffering anguish coming to these briefings and seeing this project's plans. But I have been committed to supporting this process to continue to represent local businesses in the South Delta.

We in Contra Costa County are struggling right now in the face of this emergency to keep our businesses afloat. I am an appraiser and own my business. With this emergency, appraisal activity is quickly drying up, my source of income. I am not writing this to ask to be excused from the SEC but rather to help you understand my request.

My request is that the stakeholder outreach effort be put on hold during this crisis. President Trump in his announcement this morning stated his belief this will go on throughout the summer. The Single Tunnel EIR process and comment period should be on hold also for the same reason. The citizens are reeling right now. It is not the time to be ramrodding a project that has so many significant, hurtful impacts and expect people to have the energy to devote to provide thoughtful comments and input.

Thank you

Karen Mann, STCDA President and SEC South Delta Local Business Representative MANN & ASSOCIATES – Real Estate Appraisals since 1980

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