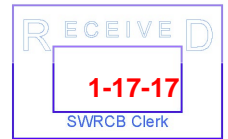


From: tt holt
To: [commentletters](#)
Subject: Comment Letter - 2016 Bay-Delta Plan Amendment and SED
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2017 12:37:04 PM



Hello,

I wish to protest the draining of Lake McClure and Lake Don Pedro to save the fish in the Delta. Actually, I wish to protest a series of bad decisions made by this water board by denying the proper research and data concerning water usage throughout the state that have resulted in the near destruction of both farmland and the environment.

40 years ago, this water board had a chance to successfully drain the salts and saline in the west San Joaquin Valley through the installation of tile drains to drain the collected salts from the soils of the West side and channel the water to the Delta to drain properly into the ocean. The tile drains were installed from Mendota as far as the nature preserve in Merced County, when suddenly the money to complete the project all the way to the Delta magically "disappeared". The saline water drained into the marshes of the nature preserve in Merced County until the birds started dying from too much salt in the water. Suddenly, at the same cost it would have taken to complete the drains to the ocean, the tile drains were removed.

There is the data showing the results of the water for the Klamath River Basin, that we the people know has not successfully "saved" the fish such water was intended to protect or preserve. It is a known failure.

I bring these up because I understand that begging and pleading for this measure to be voted "no" will go unheeded. But that is where I now speak up. You people on the Board, you are voted by the people of the state to be a member of the board. Your job is to represent the people of the state, not for us to bow down to you as your servants. We are not slaves to you. It is already known that the amount of people protesting and demanding a "no" vote already count more than those pushing for a "yes". It is not your job to go and vote against the people in favor of one environmental group. It is your job to vote according to the people. Far more people have spoken against this amendment than for it.

Even more so, it has been noted that no other options have been considered. This is wrong. Other options should be included for the people to choose a fair compromise. Other options, such as properly draining the overflow of the lakes in question for 5 years only after the known cycle of "El Nino" and "La Nina" weather cycles. We have a known 20 year flood and drought cycle connected to those weather conditions and phenomena, why was it not proposed that the water overflow be accepted for 5 years after a known "El Nino" year, and then proper water be delivered to the residents and farmers for the remaining 15 years until the next "El Nino"? Why was it not proposed a cap on new buildings in the San Joaquin Valley? It should instead be proposed that a cap be put on all new buildings in the San Joaquin Valley. The San Joaquin Valley does not need 1 million new houses or buildings in the next 20 years. It should be proposed that a building limit be put on the San Joaquin Valley.

We are aware that you are ultimately humans who are making this decision. Be aware that your vote to approve this measure will directly affect more than 20 million people. We know that Blue Diamond Growers are in line of the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Merced Rivers. We also know that Blue Diamond is the largest producer of almond milk product, which is a known safe alternative for people with lactose intolerance. We know that such a decision to take the water to grow the food needed to keep people alive will increase the price of food by another 200%. We are also aware that Hilmar Cheese and all of the dairy producers are along the waterways in Merced and Stanislaus counties. We know that Hilmar Cheese is the largest producer of whey products for baby formulas. If you are the parent of a child in the last 20 years, or are looking to become a grandparent in the next 20 years, your babies will still depend on baby formula to stay alive. A vote for this measure will result in the cost of baby formula to increase by \$2.00. This is already too much to people needing to choose between affording the cost of food to feed their family or pay rent. Your vote will directly increase the amount of homeless people by 20% as they choose to buy baby formula to stay alive instead of pay their rent.

Are you sure you want to be the people responsible for the direct increase of the homeless by 20%? Again, we bring up the Klamath River Basin, and the result of several thousand people being put on government assistance and welfare due to the loss of both jobs and high food costs as a direct result of the water decision that failed to "save the fish"

Again, your vote is for the people. If the people say "no", you must vote "no". We are aware that you have already received your payment and perks from the environmental companies. You have already been paid, despite the protests of the people.

May Karma come back to you.

Sincerely,

TT Holt and family