



**BDCP/California WaterFix
Recirculated Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS**

Item 7a, November 9, 2015

Public Review Overview

- Recirculated DEIR/Supplemental DEIS issued July 10 for 113-day review
- Two public meetings
 - July 28 in Sacramento
 - July 29 in Walnut Grove
- Close of public comment period on October 30
- Approximately 20,000 comment letters submitted
 - 8,000 form letters
 - 2,650 stand-alone letters

SWP/CVP Public Water Agency Comment Letters

- Submitted by
 - Kern County Water Agency
 - San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority/Westlands Water District
 - Santa Clara Valley Water District
 - State Water Contractors/San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
 - The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Public Water Agency Comments

- Expressed continue support for the BDCP/California WaterFix Program
- Project must provide for sufficient water supplies and reliability, water quality improvements, and assurances and regulatory stability to the maximum extent available to justify substantial financial investment
- Final EIR/S should explicitly reflect limits and uncertainties of science
- RDEIR/SDEIS conforms fully with CEQA/NEPA to address new regulatory approach & revised alternatives

Member Agency Comment Letters

- Submitted by
 - City of Anaheim
 - City of Burbank
 - Calleguas Municipal Water District
 - Central Basin Municipal Water District
 - Eastern Municipal Water District
 - Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
 - Municipal Water District of Orange County
 - San Diego County Water Authority
 - Three Valleys Municipal Water District
 - Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

Member Agency Comments

- Stress the importance of SWP to regional supply portfolio
- Encourage a timely resolution to long-standing water supply and environmental conflicts in the Delta
- Concern that changed regulatory approach for preferred Alt 4A undermines expected water supply and reliability assurances. Final EIR/S should include information on safeguards against future supply reductions
- Requests reexamination of mitigation and environmental commitments in light of revision to Alt 4A construction footprint and new regulatory standards
- Importance of collaborative adaptive management and science program that includes contractor engagement in decision-making. Final should include greater clarity on adaptive management program

Other Agency Comment Letters

- Environmental Protection Agency
- Delta Stewardship Council
- Independent Science Board
- Contra Costa Water District

Environmental Protection Agency

- Acknowledges the California WaterFix flexible dual-conveyance will provide reliable water supplies while reducing other stressors on sensitive fish species
- Expresses concern that DEIS may not reflect final operational criteria and information necessary to assess impacts to Delta flows
- Scores DEIS a “3-Inadequate” but anticipates Final EIS will be adequate without the need for second SDEIS

Delta Stewardship Council

- RDEIR/SDEIS addresses DSC comments on water quality, downstream impacts, impacts to Sandhill Crane
- Final EIR/S should include details on actions and timelines in Adaptive Management program
- Final EIR/S should reflect changes to operations criteria from Section 7 and other permit processes
- Requests greater detail on mitigation commitments

Independent Science Board

- Acknowledges progress reflected in RDEIR/SDEIS
- Seeks clearer comparisons of environmental and economic costs/benefits of alternatives
- Request more discussion of climate change impacts on water demands and groundwater management

Contra Costa Water District

- Analyze how California WaterFix will be integrated with the statewide water supply system
- California WaterFix impacts should be analyzed separately from climate change and sea level rise beyond 2025
- Revise water quality modeling and assess water quality mitigation
- Reevaluate alternatives eliminated from detailed analysis because objectives no longer include HCP/NCCP

Next Steps

- Review and respond to all comments received on the 2013 DEIR/DEIS and 2015 RDEIR/SDEIS
- Prepare Final EIR/S and release for public review for a minimum of 30 days
- Anticipated public meeting prior to a final decision on the project