



November 2, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California

The Honorable Gloria Gray
Chair, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Ms. Karla Nemeth
Director, California Department of Water Resources

Mr. Joaquin Esquivel
Chair, State Water Resources Control Board

Mr. Chuck Bonham
Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Subject: Advancing the Single-Tunnel Delta Conveyance Solution

Dear Governor Newsom, Director Nemeth, Chair Esquivel, and Director Bonham:

On behalf of the Southern California Water Coalition (SCWC), I write to convey the organization's complete support for an improved Delta Conveyance. SCWC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan public education partnership devoted to informing Southern California about water needs and our state's water resources. Through a variety of tools, including advocacy, SCWC works to ensure our region has a reliable water supply.

The SCWC urges the state to advance the single-tunnel Delta Conveyance project. Modernizing our state's aging water delivery system is critical to creating a more resilient water supply for 27 million California residents, 750,000 acres of agriculture land, and businesses.

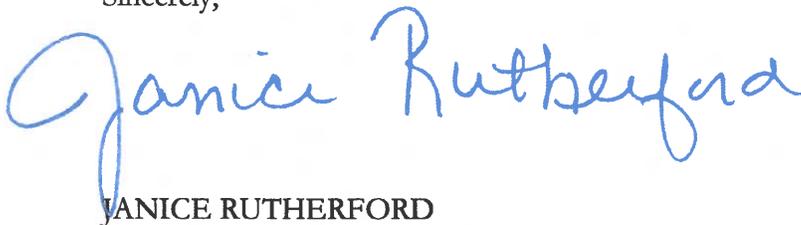
About two-thirds of California's water supply originates in the Sierra Nevada mountains and is delivered through the antiquated State Water Project. In Southern California, we rely on this water delivery infrastructure as it provides the highest quality and most affordable water supply available to us. Reinforcing the infrastructure that delivers one of the lowest cost water supplies is absolutely essential, especially as California takes a hard look at water affordability. Investing in a Delta Conveyance project is the most cost-effective way to secure our water future.

Advancing the single-tunnel Delta Conveyance project is an essential step we must take to ensure water resiliency for California. The proposed project is also a key element of the Governor's portfolio approach to water management in the state. In addition, the high quality water supply the State Water Project provides supports many other elements of the Governor's portfolio, such as sustained water recycling.

For these reasons, the SCWC supports the single-tunnel Delta conveyance solution. We urge you and the Administration to share our sense of urgency to advance implementation of the Delta Conveyance; the vulnerabilities of earthquakes and levee failure are not acceptable.

Thank you for your consideration. If I, or the SCWC, can be a resource, please contact me at (909) 387-4833 or Supervisor.Rutherford@bos.sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,



JANICE RUTHERFORD
Chair, Southern California Water Coalition
Supervisor, County of San Bernardino