



DELTA WETLANDS PROJECT

November 16, 2010

Hon. Phil Isenberg, Chair
Delta Stewardship Council
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Flood Risk White Paper

Dear Chairman Isenberg,

Thank you soliciting comments on the Flood Risk White Paper distributed at the last Council meeting. I understand that comments are not likely to be reflected in the white paper itself, but that they may be incorporated in the Delta Plan as it is developed.

The paper correctly points out that the stress on Delta levees increases as the differential between channel water elevation and island land elevation increases. It should be noted that in this respect, continued subsidence is a greater threat than sea level rise. The rate of subsidence on Delta islands can reach 2" per year. The rate of sea level rise is up to 0.5" per year. The importance of this is obvious and clear; while sea level rise can't be stopped, land subsidence can. We recommend that the Delta Plan recognize the interrelationship of sea level rise and subsidence and deal with both together and comprehensively.

We believe that Emergency response deserves broader and more comprehensive attention. In addition to stockpiling materials and coordinating response efforts, the Delta Plan should consider facilities and strategies that could isolate salty water that gets introduced to the Delta as well as facilities and strategies that could flush any uncontained salty water from the channels that feed the export pumps.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide input to your deliberative process.

Sincerely,

Anson B. Moran
General Manager

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