

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 30, 2009

Ms. Nancy Sutley  
Chair  
White House Council on Environmental Quality  
730 Jackson Place, NW  
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Ms. Sutley:

Congratulations on your recent nomination and confirmation as the new Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality. We all look forward to working with a fellow Californian in addressing the environmental challenges facing our nation.

As you are well aware, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta serves as the major hub of California's water supply, providing water to two-thirds of the state's households and millions of acres of farmland in the Central Valley. In addition, the Delta is home to an ecosystem that contains of a wide array of fish and wildlife, some of which is threatened or endangered. The competing interests for the limited natural resources in the Delta have created a situation that is unsustainable and continue to provide policy makers with tremendous challenges.

Just recently, the Delta Vision Committee issued its Implementation Report, which recommended that the Delta be managed according to two co-equal goals: restore the Delta ecosystem and create a more reliable water supply for California. The concepts outlined in the Implementation Report are broadly similar to those identified by the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force, the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), the Nature Conservancy, and other organizations.

Now, perhaps more than ever, a consensus is forming around the need to achieve the Delta Vision's co-equal objectives of water supply reliability and environmental sustainability. That growing consensus includes making a peripheral canal part of a long-term solution for the Delta as well as a larger number of steps to improve the greater watersheds of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and the Delta ecosystem.

To that end, we strongly encourage you and other members of the incoming Administration to take an active role in helping California achieve the co-equal goals for the Delta. Specifically, we urge you and the relevant federal agencies to devote the needed resources and attention to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan's Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement process and other actions that will help create a more reliable water supply for California and restore the Delta ecosystem.

We look forward to working with you on issues related to the Delta and other matters.

Sincerely,



KEN CALVERT  
Member of Congress



JIM COSTA  
Member of Congress



DAVID DREIER  
Member of Congress



GARY MILLER  
Member of Congress



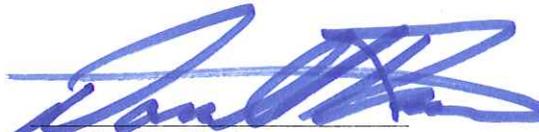
BUCK McKEON  
Member of Congress



KEVIN McCARTHY  
Member of Congress



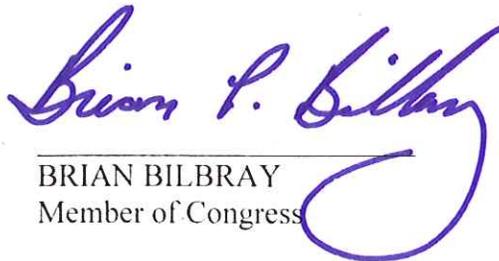
GEORGE RADANOVICH  
Member of Congress



DARRELL ISSA  
Member of Congress



MARY BONO  
Member of Congress



BRIAN BILBRAY  
Member of Congress

*John Campbell*

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JOHN CAMPBELL  
Member of Congress

*Dana Rohrabacher*

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DANA ROHRABACHER  
Member of Congress

*Ed Royce*

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ED ROYCE  
Member of Congress

*Bob Filner*

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BOB FILNER  
Member of Congress