STATE OF CALIFORNIA – CALIFORNIA NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

To: Distribution List

Public Meetings for State Water Project Contract Amendment for California WaterFix

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Project (SWP) Contractors plan to resume the public process to negotiate proposed amendments to the SWP water supply contracts between DWR and the SWP Contractors for California WaterFix (WaterFix). This public process was initially noticed on November 21, 2014 for the proposed Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). In July 2015, DWR identified WaterFix as the preferred project alternative, replacing the BDCP. In July 2017, DWR completed the CEQA process through certification of Final EIR and issuance of Notice of Determination of DWR's approval of California WaterFix.

The contract negotiations will address allocation and payment of certain planning, engineering, construction, operation, maintenance, and environmental mitigation costs of WaterFix. The proposed objectives of the negotiations are to develop terms and conditions for proposed amendments to the water supply contracts and define the rights and obligations of DWR and those SWP Contractors who would benefit from implementation of WaterFix. The proposed objectives for the upcoming negotiations will also consider potential changes to the SWP water supply contracts for water management actions, including water transfers. The negotiations are focused only on these contractual aspects and is not a forum for making any other decisions regarding WaterFix.

Public Meetings' Process:
DWR will open the negotiations to the public to allow the opportunity to observe and provide comments to DWR at the end of each negotiation session. Written comments may also be submitted within seven (7) calendar days following the negotiation. The process that DWR will follow to enable members of the public to observe and comment on the negotiations will be consistent with the "Principles Regarding Public Participation Process in SWP Contract Negotiations," which were approved as part of the settlement agreement reached in the case titled, *Planning and Conservation League et al.v. Department of Water Resources,* 83 Cal.App.4th 892 (2000).

Session Date:
The next session is scheduled for February 13, 2018 in the Natural Resources Building, 1416 9th Street, Room 1131 at 10:00 a.m. (PST).

Please contact Ted Alvarez at (916) 653-6271 or by e-mail at Ted.Alvarez@water.ca.gov if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

Karla Nemeth
Director