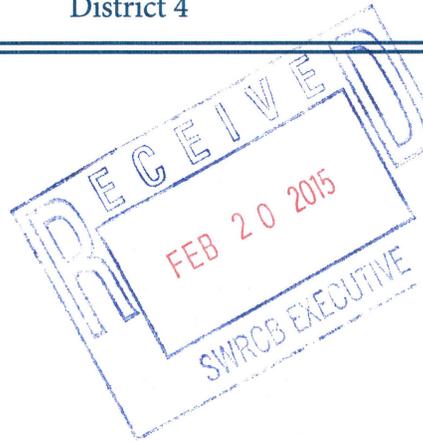




CRAIG PEDERSEN

Supervisor
District 4

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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February 17, 2015

Felicia Marcus
Board Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 "I" Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Objections to Order Approving In Part And Denying In Part A Petition For Temporary Urgency Changes To License And Permit Terms And Conditions Requiring Compliance With Delta Water Quality Objectives In Response To Drought Conditions (In the Matter of Specified License and Permits of the Department of Water Resources and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for the State Water Project and Central Valley Project).

We, the undersigned Allied Growers, along with industry and local leaders, are writing to express our deep disappointment with the decision of Tom Howard to deny the intermediate pumping provision put forth in the recent Temporary Urgency Petition put forth by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources. The TUCP is a balanced proposal by the operational agencies in conjunction with the Federal and State Fish Agencies to provide operational flexibility that is crucial as we enter a 4th year of drought. Collaboration is needed during this difficult time and through a collaborative process the TUCP was drafted. The SWRCB should have accepted the entire TUCP as written since it has the support of both the Fish Agencies and the state and federal operators of our water system. Mr. Howard's singular action is inexcusable and must be reversed.

Communities and farms have suffered greatly during this prolonged drought and every gallon of water is critical. To delay the implementation of a modest modification to the pumping of water is unconscionable, especially since the TUCP considered ramifications to both fish species and human need. Clearly Mr. Howard considers the "potential" jeopardy to fish to be more important than the "actual" jeopardy to human beings. Mr. Howard did not back up his decision with appropriate scientific facts or opinions and his decision is in direct conflict with the biologists who helped draft the TUCP. His actions are inexcusable and need to be reversed as soon as possible.

In light of the operational and biological expertise provided by the Department of Water Resources, Bureau of Reclamation and the Wildlife Agencies, we respectfully request that the State Board reverse its decision denying this critical portion of the TUCP to allow additional water to move through the Delta to the millions of residents and acres of farmland that are dependent on these water supplies.

Sincerely,

Craig Pedersen
District 4 Supervisor