

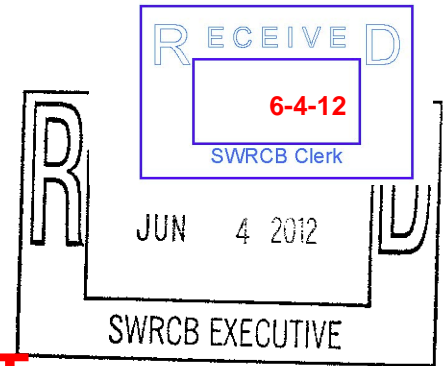


AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Promoting business, building community

Charlie Hoppin, Chair
Francis Spivey-Weber, Vice Chair
Tam M. Doduc, Member

State Water Resources Control Board
Post Office Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95814



LATE COMMENT

Re: Comments of Rocklin Chamber of Commerce on Supplemental Notice of Preparation and Notice of Scoping for the Update and Implementation of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary: Comprehensive Review

Dear Chair Hoppin and Members of the Board:

On behalf of the board of directors of the Rocklin Area Chamber of Commerce and its 725 members, this letter is being submitted by the Rocklin Chamber of Commerce in support of the scoping comments submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board ("Water Board") by Placer County Water Agency ("Agency"). The Rocklin Chamber appreciates the opportunity to comment on the scope of the Water Board's planned update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan.

The residents and businesses of Rocklin are wholly dependent on water supplies provided by the Agency. And, as the Agency has pointed out, there are NO water supplies available to the Agency other than sources tributary to the Sacramento River and Bay-Delta. Groundwater is not present in useable quantities in most of Placer County. Virtually all water provided during the summer and fall of each year is made available by storage of spring snowmelt runoff. A seasonal shift in flow criteria to a "more natural hydrograph," as has been suggested by some, would seriously compromise such water supplies.

In addition, as the Agency has commented, a mandated seasonal shift in Delta outflow is likely to affect the reliability and cost of California's energy, with a secondary impact of declining air quality. Both of these issues are of concern to California's business communities, including the Rocklin Chamber.

The California Legislature has recognized the need to protect existing and future water supply availability for areas in which it originates through its area of origin protection laws. The area of origin laws were intended to prevent Delta exports from reaching levels that would leave upstream communities and industries without sufficient water supplies to remain economically viable. Rocklin Chamber urges the Water Board, in its consideration of Delta flow objectives, to take into full consideration the need for area of origin water supplies for the continued vitality of California's foothill and mountain communities; a vitality that the Legislature sought to protect.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scope of your Plan update. We look forward to reviewing your drafts and proposed Update.

Respectfully submitted,

Aldo Pineschi
Rocklin Chamber Board Member
Chairman, Government Relations Committee