June 3, 2016

Via Email

The Honorable Felicia Marcus, Chair
Co-Hearing Officer
State Water Resources Control Board
P. O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

The Honorable Tam Doduc
Co-Hearing Officer
State Water Resources Control Board
P. O. Box 100
Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Re: Request for Extension of Deadline California Water Fix Hearing

Dear Hearing Officers Doduc and Marcus:

The South Delta Water Agency, Central Delta Water Agency et al. join in the recent requests of other parties and Protestants to extend the deadline by which written objections to Petitioners’ case-in-chief. As you know, the current deadline for such objections is June 15, 2016.

This past Monday Petitioners DWR and USBR submitted the materials supporting their case-in-chief. Those materials include over 5,200 pages of documents including testimony, as well as what appears to be tens of thousands of pages of additional modeling and modeling analysis.

As the other parties have noted, it is not reasonable much less practical to expect the Protestants and other parties to review such voluminous materials and produce objections by the current deadline of June 15. Though perhaps not separately relevant, my office is still trying to download most of the materials and review of the documents has not even begun.
SDWA, CDWA et al. respectfully request the Hearing Officers reconsider the upcoming deadline for submitting objections as well as the entire schedule for the hearing. The Hearing Officers have been understanding each time DWR and USBR have muddled the process and have adjusted the hearing deadlines and schedule accordingly in order to protect the integrity of the process. We now unfortunately see just how much material is being offered by DWR and USBR; it exceeds the amounts submitted for the 1995 WQCP and the water rights decision implementing that Plan (D-1641) by many, many times. Those hearings covered 82 days. In order for the various parties to have even a minimal chance at review and analysis of thousands and thousands of pages (including so much technical information) the process must once again be adjusted. Practically speaking, no one can adequately prepare for the hearings (much less make the June 15 deadline) when so much material is involved.

We ask that the deadline for objection be extended for at least 60 days and all other deadlines and hearing dates be adjusted accordingly. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

JOHN HERRICK

cc: Service List