



July 27, 2016

Re: California WaterFix Policy Statement

Dear State Water Resources Control Board,

My name is Kris Rosa and I am here on behalf of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group in support of the California WaterFix. We want to thank you for this open process that allows us to express our views.

The Leadership Group represents more than 400 of Silicon Valley's most respected employers – and we have joined with other businesses, labor unions, family farmers, public safety leaders, water experts, local governments, taxpayer groups and minority groups across the state in strong support of the California WaterFix. Our members also support EcoRestore. Taken together, WaterFix and EcoRestore will accelerate the restoration of the Delta's ecosystem and fix the state's aging water infrastructure.

Santa Clara County receives more than 40% of our water and 95% of our clean drinking water from the Delta. We are reliant on the clean water that comes from the Sierra Nevada mountains. This is the water that runs our region's and state's economy.

The Bay Area understands the importance of local water projects to replenish groundwater basins, fill up reservoirs, and recharge our existing water supplies, and we will continue to invest in these alternatives. But these aren't enough – for example, if we double our increase in investment in recycling that only produces 17% of the amount of water that this project would supply. We must recognize that the Delta is an irreplaceable source of water for our region. You cannot fill local storage facilities, or invest in local water recycling projects unless you have a base supply of fresh reliable water.

The CA WaterFix will offer flexibility so we can capture and store water during heavy rainfall when diversions pose less risk to fish and water quality.

CA WaterFix is the plan that will improve the ecological health of the Delta. It balances water supply needs with the Delta ecosystem – it brings back more natural flows and it would be located away from endangered fish habitats.

It also protects against major earthquakes, which could cause our current system of dirt levees to collapse and put our clean water supply at risk.

We urge you to approve the permit to move the CA WaterFix forward. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kris Rosa
Senior Associate, Energy & Environment
Silicon Valley Leadership Group