

Hilmar High School

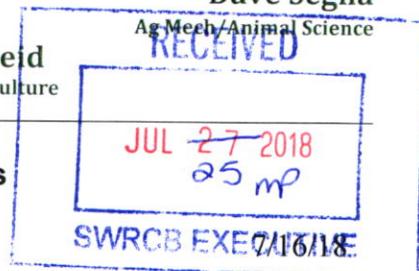
Agriculture Department

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Comment Letter – Revisions to Proposed Bay-Delta Plan Amendments

State Water Resources Control Board:

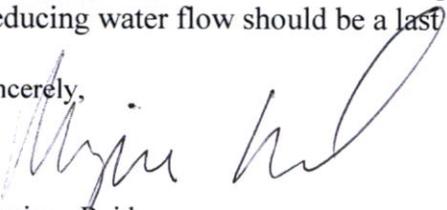
I am a resident of Hickman in Stanislaus county and am currently served by the Turlock Irrigation District (TID). I have worked as an Agriculture Instructor at Hilmar High School in Merced County for the past 20 years. My husband and I own 40 acres, 35 of which are planted in Almonds. Both the community in which I live and the community in which I work, financially rely on production agriculture and related industries to exist. In return, these communities are producing food not only for the people of this nation but for export as well.

The proposed SED water flow plan put forward by this board has the potential to be catastrophic to not only the agriculture industry that is served by the water in question but also to the residents of the surrounding area. We use ground water for irrigation but are surrounded by farms that rely on Don Pedro and its canal system to deliver water. Reducing the amount of water we will have access to during much needed irrigation times will devastate farms that rely on irrigation and farms that rely on ground water. Of great concern to me is ground water reserves and the ever declining water table. If the water flows down the river it can't be used to recharge water reserves in the ground. This plan nor the research that was presented on the topic of groundwater by or to the committee adequately addressed this issue. If surface water is reduced like it has been in recent years to deal with drought, ground water will be used more heavily. More ground water use and less surface water available will result in a water crisis for farms and towns people alike. Without water land isn't worth much as we witnessed our neighbors in the southern part of the valley deal with. Wells go dry, significantly less food is produced, less water for city inhabitants, the impact is far reaching.

Aside from the negative impact on the Agriculture industry, the socio-economic factors that will arise will be overwhelming. This water flow plan will have a negative impact on some of the poorest parts of this state. San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced County are plagued with high rates of poverty and lack of education. Agriculture is one of the main industry in which people can find employment. We have had little success attracting high tech or other industries that flourish in other parts of California.

I encourage the board to rethink this plan and try some of the other alternatives that have been presented. Reducing water flow should be a last resort.

Sincerely,


Monique Reid
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Hickman, CA 95323



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From: Sahota, Jaspreet@Waterboards <Jaspreet.Sahota@Waterboards.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 27, 2018 3:20 PM
To: LSJR-SD-Comments; WQCP1Comments
Subject: print letter received 07-25-18
Attachments: Monique_Reid.pdf

Categories: Purple Category

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