



July 25, 2012

Ms. Mary Piepho
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County Administration Building
651 Pine Street, Room 106
Martinez, CA 94533

Dear Supervisor Piepho:

Thank you for your letter requesting funds to peer review BDCP environmental studies, and to determine the economic impact of BDCP on Contra Costa County.

The Bureau of Reclamation is providing funding for the Delta County Coalition to enable the five counties to continue their coordinated effort to interact with BDCP. Our agencies are unable to provide funding to the entire Delta (and other) counties to analyze BDCP, including the economic effects of BDCP.

The Department of Water Resources is preparing an economic analysis of BDCP, and is considering a subsequent analysis of the benefits for the Delta. BDCP is conducting independent science review of the effects analysis, and independent science review is also being done by the Bureau of Reclamation for certain fish species in the Delta.

We regret that we cannot afford to fund each county or other units of government that wish to more fully interact with or analyze BDCP. We understand the shortages of funds the local government face, but there are so many units of government that wish to analyze BDCP that we cannot afford to fund them all. We hope to develop an equitable plan to assist the counties in their interaction with BDCP in the future.

We look forward to working with Contra Costa County and other Delta counties as we move BDCP toward a conclusion.

Best regards,


Gerald Meral, Deputy Secretary

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