



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

April 22, 2013

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary  
US Department of Interior  
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Rebecca Blank  
Acting Secretary  
US Department of Commerce  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Madam Secretary and Dr. Blank:

I am writing in support of the timely completion of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. This project represents the best available option for responding to the certain effects of climate change on California's water supply and infrastructure. In addition, the Plan presents a valuable opportunity to restore the San Joaquin Delta, one of the nation's most economically important and environmentally sensitive wetland regions.

Financing for this project relies on continued funding from the agencies that contract for the State Water Project and Central Valley Project water supplies. They have already invested more than \$200 million in the planning process to support the project. We must complete the planning phase in a timely manner to secure their investment in the construction phase of the project.

In order to meet this goal, Federal Register notice of the public availability of the Plan and accompanying Environmental Impact Statement must be released no later than this summer. I propose to meet with the highest-level federal officials who are responsible for this project later this month to discuss how we can assure timely federal review of these documents.

I stand willing to mobilize whatever resources we have at our disposal to assist the federal government in their document review. My office staff and Department of Water Resources, the agency responsible for the Plan, are ready and able to provide funding, staff time, consulting, or whatever else it takes to get this done.

I would greatly appreciate your willingness to make available the appropriate federal officials to engage in a frank and honest exchange on this important subject.

Sincerely,

  
Edmund G. Brown Jr.

cc: The Honorable Nancy Sutley, Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality