May 7, 2008

Ms. Delores Brown
Chief Office of Environmental Compliance
California Department of Water Resources
P.O. 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Dear Ms. Brown:

As the largest homebuilding firm headquartered in California, KB Home promotes homeownership for all Californians. We have grown increasingly concerned about the decline in the health of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the deteriorating reliability of this key water supply for two-thirds of all of California's residents, as well as for half of the nation's produce.

Despite the current market conditions for home sales, California still faces a housing crisis in terms of availability and affordability, particularly when you consider the projections for California's population growth over the next decade. Without a reliable and healthy water system, new home supply will be severely restricted. In addition to the human toll from inadequate housing, home prices will again soar out of the reach of California's families. California's economic future and environmental health will be compromised without a long-term and comprehensive solution to water storage and delivery.

We commend the Bay Delta Conservation Plan's collaborative effort among water agencies, environmental organizations, and state and federal agencies. The Plan is vital to mapping out a comprehensive conservation plan and a solution. The key to a reliable water system is a restored Delta ecosystem and a rebuilt water conveyance system.

KB Home supports the BDCP's environmental review process, an essential component to the success of the ultimate plan. We applaud the goal of the plan to place the environmental health of the Delta and the reliability of our state's water system on equal footing.

All of us who live and work in California depend on a reliable water supply. We need sufficient quantity in wet years to replenish our storage systems. We need high quality water to replenish our groundwater basins and to blend with local supplies and Colorado River water. We need a restored Delta ecosystem and a rebuilt conveyance system. Reliability must be a cornerstone of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan.

The success of the BDCP is essential to the health of California.

Sincerely,

Kate Klimow
Regional Director
Government and Public Affairs