October 4, 2013

The Honorable Jerry Brown  
*Governor of the State of California*  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, California 95814

Secretary Sally Jewell  
*Secretary of the Interior*  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

RE: Support for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Dear Governor Brown and Secretary Jewell,

The San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers, which represents the Chambers at left, wishes to express our support for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP).

California’s water supply hinges on the safety and integrity of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Delta provides water for 25 million people and thousands of businesses and farms located throughout the state; however it is highly vulnerable to earthquakes and other catastrophic natural disasters. We believe the BDCP will both protect the fragile environment of the Delta while ensuring that California has a reliable and secure water supply for years to come.

One important aspect of the BDCP is the immense economic benefit it would provide the state. The California Natural Resources Agency recently released the draft BDCP economic impact report, detailing the effects of the plan on California’s economy. The report concluded that the BDCP would create approximately 177,000 new jobs, as well as protect the jobs of more than one million Californians. The study also determined that the BDCP will lead to a significant net economic benefit to the state, amounting to a net improvement of $4.8 billion to $5.4 billion in new economic growth for California residents.

The results clearly indicate that the BDCP makes both economic and environmental sense for the state, serving the best interests of all California residents today and in the future by securing a more reliable water supply. Water shortages and service interruptions would wreak economic havoc on all parts of the state, raising water prices, crippling businesses that rely on water for their products and services, and harming consumers. While numerous details of the BDCP must still be resolved, all Californians, both north and south, should recognize the absolute necessity of securing a reliable water supply for the long-term benefit of the state.
The San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers strongly supports any effort to better secure vital water supplies for the region, recognizing that many particulars of the BDCP must still be studied and finalized. We believe it is vital that the EIR review and public comment process continue to move forward.

Sincerely,

Mitchell L. Crawford  
President – San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers

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