Thank You for the opportunity to address questions on the BDCP plan this evening: We request herewith that you make all of our comments and questions tonight part of the record and address all of them in the final EIR-EIS.

I’m Stephen F. Heringer, 5th of 6 generations of the Heringer family to farm Clarksburg soils. At your Clarksburg meeting one year ago I requested economic analysis, intended environmental mitigation, cost projections and intended economic mitigation on the following issues of immediate concern to residents of the North Delta: To Summarize:

17,000 Acres of premium Wine grapes in the Clarksburg Appalachian Vineyard Establishment Costs in the $16 - $20,000 Range
Vineyard Infrastructure Costs alone exceeding $340,000 Mil
11,000 Local and 13,500 Nationwide Jobs created by these wine grapes
$357 Mil Statewide and $900 Mil annual wages paid by these acres
Taxes generated Statewide $107 Mil, $64 Mil additional Nationwide
17,000 Agrotourism Visitors- $70 Mil Expenditures from Tourism

Please complete the requested analysis for the EIR-EIS.

As North Delta Water Agency constituents, we have paid contractual fees for almost three decades to the State of California for specific water quantity and quality parameters. Outline in the EIR-EIS how these quality and quantity parameters will continue to be met under your various BDCP plan options as our North Delta contract has no sunset date and we will fight for proper performance of its provisions.

Since the native soil material along the western route has been deemed unsuitable for levee construction purposes, where will the estimated 10 million yards of levee material come from and how will it be economically moved and placed on the proposed Western conveyance project?
We have implored all of you involved in the BDCP deliberations to consider the Delta as a Place in your planning processes. Outline in your EIR-EIS report the measures you have taken to consider the communities and peoples of the Delta, what considerations of the social and economic fabric of the area you have considered in your options, what considerations of the businesses that support our family farms and ranches, and finally, the considerations of the schools that educate our children. Ring levees may save our towns but will not save the Delta communities.

Our Yolo County Supervisors have partnered with us to keep our unique upper Delta area agricultural. We adapted sustainability generations ago to assure the farming and enjoyment of our Delta region for the benefit of all of the people of our Great State. Most, if not all, of your environmental suppositions are based on opinions and not on proven science. Farmers have used adaptive management for years, only difference was our definition, “Oh Hell – That didn’t work!! Let’s try something else. Following the authorization of the State Water Project 50 plus years ago, the State of California reneged on its promise to bring 10 million additional acre feet of water to the table through additional storage capacity and importation of north coast water. We will not now willingly sacrifice our heritage, homes, communities, and farms to satisfy the States thirst at our sole expense. Outline in the EIR-EIS how local voices will be made a significant part of the governance body that will control the future of our Delta. Thank you for your attention to these questions.

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