

**The following Individual comments
were received by email**

Individual-1

From: Stephen Wm. Bilson
Sent: Thursday 7/16/2009 4:27 PM
Subject: Water Conveyance/Peripheral Canal
Dear Mr. Beach(ley) -

If all the many water usage, reuse, and conservation laws, rules, and agreements were followed in Southern California that should be followed, there would be no need for the massive undertaking and expenditures you are embarking on with your drilling exploration in support of the Water Conveyance/Peripheral Canal boondoggle. But virtually none of those water usage, reuse, and conservation laws, rules, and agreements are followed.

That doesn't mean the state should put all future generations of Californians in debt to create more water for Southern California. Rather, it means the state should finally enforce all those water usage, reuse, and conservation laws, rules, and agreements.

If your project is subject to an EIR process, please enter this email on the record.

Stephen Wm. Bilson

Individual-2

From: Gene Beley
Sent: Thursday 7/16/2009 9:36 AM
Subject: Protest to your drilling in Sacramento River!

This morning's Stockton Record Page 1 article on how your agency is going to proceed with drilling in the Sacramento River for "possible intake sites for a peripheral canal" is proof all the public meetings for input are a sham and that there is no government "by the people."

I am also alarmed by the statement "The drilling also explores infrastructure for "through-Delta conveyance," that is, the concept that some water will continue to flow through the estuary towards the export pumps through Tracy."

I think the operative word here is "SOME" water. As an avid boater, I realize you will ruin the Delta as we have been able to enjoy it for many generations and have a big impact on the boating industry in Northern California, as well as tourists that come from hundreds of miles away every year to enjoy the Delta's recreational benefits.

Tell Gov. Arnold to find water for his Southern California buddies some other way, like salt desalination.

Better yet, I think your entire staff should be fired, since California is so broke. Where in the world do you think you are going to get billions of dollars to even start this insane project? If there is that kind of money floating around Sacramento, please give it to the schools and other more important needs.

Sincerely yours,

Gene Beley

cc to Governor's office, *Stockton Record*, *Bay Area & Delta Yachtsman magazine*

Individual-3

From: The Jeffries Family
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2009 11:34 AM
Subject: no posting on DWR website on how to submit a public comment

I am certain this is directed to the wrong entity but it was the first e- mail I located.

Why is it not apparent how to lodge a public comment, in particular regarding the drilling for the planned canal?

This whole canal thing has seemed very much a done deal from the start so why the façade of a public comment period.

I expect more from a state agency. Where are the scientists' comments regarding what these diversions will do to our fish?

Who is paying for this drilling? This water will benefit rich farmers (who prey on the labors of the undocumented) and Southern California developers- why don't they pay for it, why should a Northern Californian have to pay for any of this work including the extensive planning and environmental studies.

If it because rising sea level will destroy the Delta anyway come out and say it. If fish are gone for good and we must learn to love farmed fish- just say it.

It has become clear to me that there is a lot more politics that goes on in the DWR than common sense- for example; how much time and energy, not to mention money, has been thrown at that cesspool of the Salton Sea.

PLEASE CONSIDER THIS MY PUBLIC COMMENT AS I CAN FIND NO WHERE TO POST IT OR LINK TO POST A COMMENT ON THE DWR WEBSITE REGARDING THE DELTA PERIPHERAL CANAL

Thank you for your time,
Sandra Jeffries

Individual-4

From: Glenn Abuelhaj
Sent: Thursday 7/16/2009 10:04 PM
Subject: In-water Geotechnical Drilling Public Comment

Please stop before you begin the drilling.

This whole project will not achieve the desired goals that you speak of.

I'm against this drilling effort so please reconsider.

I'm for realizing more innovative ways to resolve the water delivery system ie. desalination.

You need to think out of the box on this one, not in a canal.

Sincerely,

Glenn Abuelhaj

Individual-5

From: Linda Richardson
Sent: Friday 7/17/2009 9:49 AM
Subject: Delta drilling planned for canal-public comment

I do not feel that we should be drilling into delta river bottoms to explore possible "intake" sites for a peripheral canal. The bulk of the water will likely go to Southern California to supply the endless subdivisions that keep popping up. Water will be rationed for farmers in our agricultural Big Valley, turning it into a dust bowl; then, when the farmers can no longer grow produce to feed our great State, where will we be? I believe the possibility of "desalinization" plants along the coast is one possible option that needs to be explored, to supply the ever growing demand for water in Southern California. I don't recall the voters passing a bill for the construction of a peripheral canal, or did I miss that election?

Linda Richardson, Stockton, CA

Individual-6

From: Gary Richardson
Sent: Friday 7/17/2009 10:05 AM
Subject: Delta Drilling Plan for Intake Site

The State of California is over 26 Billion dollars in the RED and now they want to drill in the Delta for possible peripheral canal intake sites? Where is the drilling money coming from? When did the peripheral canal become a reality and not just a pipe dream? Southern California has stolen enough of Northern California's water. WE need it. How about taking this drilling money and building de-salting water plants in Southern California. The ocean is not that far away. If the Saudi's can do it, why can't Southern California?

GARY RICHARDSON
STOCKTON

Individual-7

From: Mark Miller, Oroville, CA (vernalpool@riseup.net)

Sent: Friday 7/17/2009 4:00 PM

Subject: Public Comment for In-Water Geotechnical Drilling (Peripheral Canal)

Greetings;

Am voicing opposition to any preliminary in-water geotechnical test drilling for the peripheral canal. The testing for a project that is already known to entail numerous risks is wasteful and pointless. Regardless of the locations of the in-water drilling sites, there are numerous problems that would be probable to occur if this peripheral canal is constructed. Despite the promise of benefits by diverting water upstream of the pumps, the risks far outweigh any positive outcome.

The structure of the peripheral canal would increase exports to the San Joaquin agribusinesses by enabling greater volume of freshwater to flow southwards from the delta. By reducing the amount of fresh river water entering the delta, the peripheral canal also allows salt water to intrude further inland, as fresh river water is no longer present in enough quantity to flush out the salt water intrusion.

Climate change scientists agree that an increase in sea level is an outcome of above average temperatures over the next few decades. Considering that the peripheral canal would exist during and after this time frame, further risks of saline intrusions are now amplified by sea level rise from global warming. The elevation of the geotechnical in-water test sites at their highest point in Clarksburg are not enough to prevent saline water from entering the system further inland, thus disrupting the delta ecosystem.

In addition any conveyance structure of such magnitude as the proposed peripheral canal will lose significant quantities of water to seepage out of the conveyance system. This water is lost to both fish and farmers, and only contributes to growth of weeds along the peripheral canal, requiring constant maintenance for removal.

There are several alternatives to peripheral canal conveyance structures, such as; water conservation through drip line irrigation, conversion of water dependant crops like cotton and lettuce (inappropriate for San Joaquin's dry and hot climate) to drought tolerant desert natives like tepary bean (high protein content, needs little to no irrigation), edible nopales cactus and jojoba (oil for industrial and cosmetic uses) as examples. By reducing their yearly demand on water by growing crops evolved and adapted to the dry climate, water demands will decrease and the farms can remain in business without killing the delta ecosystem by removing large volumes of fresh water.

Following the model of Orange County's wastewater recycling system would benefit every municipality by becoming more efficient. The process is safe, environmentally friendly and far less expensive or risky than the proposed peripheral canal.

Finally my comment includes a quote by Rep. Doris Matsui, that more exports out of the delta by pumps or a peripheral canal is not the answer to CA's water crisis. Robbing Peter to pay Paul will not work well for anyone; Rep. Doris Matsui (D-Sacramento): "Those of us who represent the Delta region and its watershed know that the peripheral canal is not likely to solve our challenges, from the disappearance of our state's iconic

salmon fishery to the repair and management of the fragile levees that support our communities. The bottom line is that we need to come up with solutions for California that don't rely on taking more and more water out of the Delta and the Sacramento River."

Thank you for your time, please consider the most viable option is to cease and desist from any further testing towards the peripheral canal. The people of CA deserve to have out tax money spent on more worthwhile options to solving our water crisis.

Mark Miller
Oroville, CA

Individual-8

From: Tom Lindemuth
Sent: Friday 7/17/2009 4:01 PM
Subject: Draft Neative Dec, Geotechnical Borings for BDCP

Dear Ms. Beachley,

I am writing to submit comments regarding the subject Draft Negative Declaration. There are two issues that concern me.

My first concern deals with the potential for realease of hazardous materials or other risk that might be caused by a collision with any watercraft with a large, immoveable object (the barge mounted drilling rig) anchored mid-channel in the Sacramento River. During the proposed drilling period, you would have one or more obstructions in the channel which would possibly (perhaps probably be) in the channel overnight. Although the exploration locations are not necessarily in the shipping channel, there is ample history of problems with collisions with smaller watercraft in the Delta waters. This issue does not seem be be covered in the draft negative declaration and needs to be addressed.

The second issue is a more general one. Given the stated drilling schedule window of August and September, it does not seem at all possible to begin in the current calander year. Since it has recently been announced that the BDCP report will now be delayed, the need to acquire this data immediately seems hard to justify. In addition, the schedule shown in the draft EIR/EIS does not show starting with permit acquisition until mid-2010.

Spending valuable funds for geotechnical work at this time is not necessary. I recommend that the Negative Declaration document be modified to show possible drilling in 2010 or 2011.

I appreciate the opportunity to supply comments. If you wish to contact me, you can reach me by return email or by telephone at (925) 625-6097.

Sincerely

Thomas E. Lindemuth

Delaying the proposed field work until the 2010 time window should cause no overall schedule delay.

Individual-9

From: Bill Wells
Sent: Monday 7/20/2009 12:09 PM
Subject: commoents on peripheral canal

Hi - I am an associate editor with "Bay and Delta Yachtsman Magazine". As you might imagine there is a lot of concern among boaters and fisherman that use the Delta of the potential for the peripheral canal to cause grave harm to the waterways. Can you provide a few examples where a water diversion of this type has actually helped a waterway and or improved fish habitat?

Does Resource Secretary Mike Chrisman receive any Delta water for Chrisman Farms near Bakersfield?

I hear Governor Schwarzenegger recently purchased a ranch in Southern California, does he receive any Delta water?

Thank you in advance for providing answers to these questions.

Best regards,

Bill Wells

Individual-10

From Dan Whaley

Sent: Friday 7/24/2009 5:02 PM

Subject: drilling 16 boring 140 to 200 deep in the stream beds of the delta--negative declaration claim

07-24-09

Please place in the record my objections to this project as a negative declaration, claiming insignificant environmental impact.

The actual impact of this action needs to be determined before it is started. Further to ask for and have comment when the action is already going forward shows that the public comment period is meaningless. This is an abuse of power and if the resources materialize to support seeking a TRO, legal fees and damages will be requested.

Please explain how you can allege drilling into the earth's crust 140 to 200 feet has no effect, let alone the potential combined effect on the environment.

Please explain why this will not increase streambed problem for the smelt.

Please explain why this action does not affect traffic, noise, air pollution in area being drilled.

Please identify your ownership rights or license or easement rights to do the proposed drilling.

Please identify the cost of this project and how funded

Please address all these issues before any drilling starts and identify exactly for the public where the drilling will occur

Thank you

Dan Whaley
Sutter Island

Individual-11

From: Kerry Wicker

Sent: Thursday 8/16/2009 2:18 PM

Subject: CEQA comments on DWR's Neg Dec for "Bay Delta Conservation Plan"
geotech. drilling

My comments:

There is no need to do exportation of water from the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta, therefore there is no need for geotech bed drilling. Communities that need water need desalinization plants, rainwater catchment systems, native zeroglyphic plants, and water re-use. Live within their own watersheds' budget.

DWR is assigned CEQA lead for the overall Delta "conservation" plan? If this project is considered a habitat conservation plan/natural communities conservation plan, the CEQA lead would be CA Dept. of Fish and Game.

Seems the geotech drilling is a piece-mealed portion of the conservation plan as a whole. Therefore to state findings that this project won't have a significant effect on the environment is incorrect.

Thank you,
K Wicker
Clarksburg, CA

Individual-12

From: Kim Glazzard

Sent: Monday 8/10/2009 3:17 PM

Subject: Proposed Exploratory Drilling in Delta and EIR/EIS Process

Dear Ms. Beachley,

It is of great concern that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is going forward with exploratory drilling regarding the Bay Delta Conservation Plan's (BDCP) potentially proposed alternate water conveyance system and associated intake structures, when the BDCP process is incomplete and approval and allocations of monies from the California State Legislature is lacking. DWR appears to be overstepping its bounds and assuming inappropriate and unfounded control and authority over land, territory, and resources of the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta which, by virtue of its value as a major California water source is part of the public commons and as such part of the public trust. DWR's responsibility is to the people of California, and it is not within DWR's purview to act outside the legal mandates of this state or the interests of its citizens.

We oppose DWR's continuation of this unauthorized drilling and believe and request that these efforts should be halted immediately.

Sincerely,

Kim Glazzard

Organic Sacramento

Individual-13

From Clare and Dave Spensley
Sent: Friday 8/7/2009 8:51 AM
Subject: THE DELTA

Dear DWR and Cal Fed Water people:

My husband and I are strongly opposed to the idea that we need to convey water from the Sac. Delta to So. Calif. We are against drilling to achieve this goal and do not want taxpayers dollars spent on this wasteful and destructive project to the residents and indigenous wildlife of the Sac. San Joaquin Delta.

Build the Auburn Dam and force the people of So. Calif. to conserve and reduce their use of water. At the same time build recycled water plants to use on vegetation. Such a plan is working in Florida every day!!

Clare & Dave Spensley
Andrus Island
California

**The following Individual comments
were received by mailed letter**

Individual-14

The California Department of Water Resources
Att. Michelle Beachle
P.O.Box.942836
Sacramento, Calif. 94236

Dear Ms. Beachle,

Reading a recent article in the Stockton Record "Delta drilling planned for canal" it occurred to me that the solution of the location of the future periphery canal does not solve the problem of the salt water flowing into the delta. As the ocean rises this problem will be increased. Under our present circumstances, we will not be able to hold it back. To fill the gap before building something at or near the Golden Gate Bridge to hold the ocean back, I have the following solution to offer for consideration.

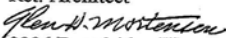
To construct a twin shipping lock system in the deep water channel area just west of Pittsburg, Calif. These would have low head electric generators installed on both sides to provide power needed for the gates and power being supplied to the grid. This would stop the flow of salt water into the Delta and at the same time provide fresh water to ship down south thus negating the need for the periphery canal.

Coupled with the lock system would be twin aqueduct that would transport river water down the channel through the bay to a point S.E. of Alameda. A causeway would be constructed from there to Candlestick Pt. Forming a dam and a roadway between the two areas. Thus giving those going to San Francisco and the peninsula a different way to go. This would be tied to the Nimitz Freeway while traveling west and going under a shipping lock in the causeway. The lock would provide a means of controlling the level of the fresh water lake and expelling the salt water from the bay. Now not being affected by the tides of the bay, commerce, recreation, housing, horticulture could abound. This all could mean that there would be no need of the Het-hetchy connection as they could fill the reservoir from the bay. This would also be true for the Berkeley reservoir, and the EBMUD system. Freeing these two systems would alleviate some of the needs of the central valley cities.

This is a general idea of possibilities. I understand fully that the costs would be horrific, engineering data involved would be horrendous, agencies insurmountable, but what the heck, you have to start somewhere.

Sincerely Yours,

Glen H. Mortensen
Ret. Architect


2236 Broadridge Way
Stockton, Calif. 95209
209 477-2733
ghmort.@gotnet.net

BT/21/09



P.O. BOX 307 • CLARKSBURG, CA. 95612 • (916) 744-1456

July 23, 2009

Michelle D. Beachley
Staff Environmental Scientist
Department of Water Resources
Division of Environmental Services
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Re: Comments on Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Draft Initial Study
for the BDCP Engineering Geotechnical Activities in Water

Dear Ms. Beachley:

This letter provides the Wilson Farms and Vineyard's comments on the Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Draft Initial Study for the BDCP Engineering Geotechnical Activities in Water.

Wilson Farms' primary concern with the proposed project is that it is a necessary component of the BDCP, and that review of the project should not be separated from review of the BDCP. The BDCP includes a new canal that would create major new diversions just south of Sacramento, creating massive social and environmental impacts. Because the proposed project is a required precursor to the BDCP and the canal, review of the project discussed in the MND cannot properly be separated from review of the overall BDCP project.

Sincerely,

D. Mark Wilson
Chairman of the Board
Wilson Farms and Vineyards

**The following Individual comments
were received by phone**

Individual-16

From: Lee Graff, an ex farmer

July 16, 2009; 7:35 am

“I object to the drilling plan. I object to anyone spending money that we don’t have to. I object to canal at this time.”

Individual-17

From: Glen Mortensen

July 21, 2009; 3:29 pm

“I live in Stockton, California and I read the article in the Stockton Record about the Delta Canal drilling. It doesn’t solve the influx of salt water.”

Please note that this office also received a written letter mailed to this office. Please see response to Individual-13.

Individual-18

From: Unknown Caller

July 23, 2009; 9:49 am

Unknown caller left message regarding canal: “Only so much water. We are already making the Delta at risk and we need to keep the Delta. Why can’t San Diego take their own water rather than take it from us?”

Individual-19

From: Verna Althei

July 23, 2009; 9:51 am

“I’m responding to Stockton Record which said to call your number. How much more water can we send down: two canals? Where is the money coming from to pay for the canal? That is big, big bucks. California is already broke. We don’t need to be spending money on another canal when we already have one. We should keep our water here. They can get their own water, but that’s another point. We need to keep our Delta. That would definitely be putting it at risk.”

Individual-20

From: Beverly Cisneros

July 23, 2009; 4:01 pm

“I’m calling in regards to the Delta drilling plan for canal. I’m against it. We’re going to end up with a giant cesspool in our Delta and it’s going to disrupt the ecosystem. We must stop this horrible thing. Thank you.”

Individual-21

From: Jean Clark

July 25, 2009; 11:27 am

“I’m against the peripheral canal being pushed ahead even though we voted it down. It will rob the Delta of fresh water and will take it to southern areas and southern California. They don’t care about farmers. I hope it doesn’t go through. Southern California has taken all the eastern side of the Sierra water and the Bay area got all of Yosemite water and Stanislaus, Tuolumne, and Mokelumne waters. We have to have something for Delta. Delta needs a quantity of water to maintain what is its natural course. They should not be grabbing it all up near Sacramento and leaving us high and dry. I hope it doesn’t go through.”