CENTRAL DELTA WATER AGENCY

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Via email DWREDBCOMMENTS@water.ca.gov

Jacob McQuirk
Supervising Engineer, Bay-Delta Office
California Department of Water Resources
P. O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Re: IS/MND
Emergency Drought Barriers Project

Dear Mr. McQuirk:

The Central Delta Water Agency has urged the consideration of temporary barriers as a helpful measure in the current drought emergency provided there are no significant adverse impacts to others in the Delta. We viewed the possibility of a win-win opportunity. The Delta is complicated and actions in one location will certainly affect water quality, flow and elevation at other locations. Where barriers are located and how they are operated will greatly determine the impacts.

Meeting the Water Quality Standards and needs within the Delta should be a prerequisite for exports from the Delta. Conditions at the time of export pumping are important but carryover storage to meet water quality standards and senior obligations in the future is also important.

It is essential that DWR and USBR work closely with the local landowners and agencies to assure that significant adverse impacts will be avoided.

We recommend 1) that any approvals for the Sutter and Steamboat Slough Barriers contain a condition that no construction be commenced until there are executed written agreements between DWR and the North Delta Water Agency, the impacted Reclamation Districts and the impacted landowners setting forth the appropriate operational conditions and

terms for mitigation of adverse impacts, and

2) that any approval for the West False River Barrier contain a condition that no construction be commenced until there is an executed written agreement between DWR and the impacted Reclamation Districts and impacted landowners setting forth the appropriate operational conditions and terms for mitigation of adverse impacts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours very truly,

DANTE JOHN NOMELLINI
Manager and Co-Counsel

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