

Robert P. Moser

13409 Grand Island Road

P.O. Box 526

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Mr. Jacob McQuirk

California Dept of Water Resources

P.O. Box 942836

Sacramento, CA 94236

DWREDBCOMMENTS@water.ca.gov

Re: Public Notice Steamboat Slough Emergency Drought Barriers Project

Dear Mr. McQuirk,

I am writing in opposition to the proposed barriers. Our family farm operates approximately 3 miles downstream from the mouth of Steamboat Slough and, as such, about two miles downstream from the proposed barrier. The existence of our 90 year old heritage Bartlett pear orchard as well as our apple, blueberry and wine grape plantings will all be threatened by the potential effect of this barrier on water quality. The history of our family farm goes back to the 1800s when our property was the location for Steamboat Landing 215, where steamboats stopped to gather produce for market. The barrier will intentionally interfere with our riparian water rights on Steamboat Slough and the effect of restricting the flow of fresh water down Steamboat Slough could easily have catastrophic effects on our crops. Both the quality and the level of the water downstream from the barriers will be affected. In addition, these barriers will impact fish, recreational boaters and the local economy. It is not at all clear that the environmental effects of the proposed barriers have been adequately considered. At best, the location of the proposed barrier on Steamboat Slough is arbitrary and capricious as we were told by the California Department of Water Resources that, due to early protests from one business on Steamboat Slough, the site of the proposed barrier was moved one mile downstream before any public notice was given to any other businesses on Steamboat Slough in 2014. **The impact of the proposed barriers on our historic farming property, on water quality and on the environment will be devastating.**

Sincerely,



Robert P. Moser