



September 22, 2020

Metropolitan Water District
Bay-Delta Committee
Vice President Steve Blois, MWD Delegate
Director Richard Atwater, MDW Delegate

Re: Delta Tunnel - Opposed

Delegates and Members of the MWD Bay-Delta Committee:

7th Generation Advisors respectfully submits its opposition to the Delta Tunnel project proposal. We further respectfully request that you urge the Department of Water Resources and the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority to adopt alternatives to the Delta Tunnel that are proven to result in more reliable and sustainable water supply, water security and environmental and human resiliency.

The Delta Tunnel will, at best, divert water from one California stakeholder to another. It would kick the can for the next generation of California's to wrestle with. A tunnel would cause substantial environmental damage, decimate Delta communities, depreciate water quality, and result in higher water costs for southern Californians. And at the end of the day, a tunnel would make us even *more dependent on imported water*.

Another impetus behind the tunnel is job creation. But the tunnel project would only provide short-term employment at the expense of long-term harms to human health and environmental health. *We don't have to make this sacrifice because we have proven job creation and environmental best-practices at our hand.*

Alternative, proven measures can achieve *sustained job growth throughout all the regions and localities of California* -increased human health through better water quality, and environmental resilience through natural resource protection.

The proven, best-practice alternatives are *regional and local investment projects* many of which are *shovel-ready* and others in the design and planning stages. Focusing funds locally and regionally will *revitalize communities* and build around their existing infrastructure both natural and manmade.



Sustainable, simple and effective water-sourcing methodologies of stormwater capture, groundwater filtration and remediation, recharge through water recycling, and inland brackish water desalination have proven to significantly increase and protect clean water supply. Add a policy of conservation and tiered water pricing and human behavior adapts. We know that Reuse-Recycle and Conserve work - behaviors that become habits - ways of life - and *ensure our future*.

Agribusiness should create a regional and local *self-resource and self-reliance plan* that doesn't deplete other stakeholders of their important needs. They know how to do this; we have to urge them to have the will.

Thank you for considering our viewpoint and recommendations for best-practice alternatives to the Delta Tunnel. If **7th Generation Advisors** can be of further assistance to your process and decision-making, we would be pleased to assist.

Respectfully submitted,

Portia P. Cohen, Esq.

Advisor

Phone: 310.991.7366

Email: portiaPcohen@gmail.com

Website: www.7thgenerationadvisors.org