



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
**FLOOD CONTROL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

P. O. BOX 1810  
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA, 95201  
TELEPHONE (209) 468-3000  
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KRIS BALAJI  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

## ADVISORY WATER COMMISSION

**May 18, 2016, 1:00 p.m.**

**Public Health Conference Room, 1601 E. Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, California**

### AGENDA

#### Roll Call

Approve Minutes for the Meeting of February 17, 2016

#### SCHEDULED ITEMS

##### **I. Discussion Items**

- A. Update on Demonstration Recharge Extraction and Aquifer Management (DREAM) and North San Joaquin Water Conservation District South System Improvements Project: Second Extension of Public Review Period for Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (See Attached) – Brandon Nakagawa
- B. Recap of Board of Supervisors Evening Study Session on the Topic of Water (See Attached) – Brandon Nakagawa
- C. Presentation and Discussion on Local Drought Emergency – Mike Cockrell

##### **II. Communications (See Attached):**

- A. April 19, 2016, Sacbee.com, “Delta Tunnels Bill Mandating Voter Approval Advances.”
- B. April 21, 2016, Mavensnotebook.com, “Bill to Protect State’s Aquifers, Groundwater Moves Forward.”
- C. May 11, 2016, Record.net.com, “Delta Land Buy Still a ‘Go’.”

#### Public Comment

#### Next Regular Meeting:

**June 15, 2016, 1:00 p.m.**  
Public Health Conference Room

*Commission may make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on any listed item.*

If you need disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Water Resource Staff at (209) 468-3089 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Any materials related to items on this agenda distributed to the Commissioners less than 72 hours before the public meeting are available for public inspection at Public Works Dept. Offices located at the following address: 1810 East Hazelton Ave., Stockton, CA 95205. These materials are also available at <http://www.sjwater.org>. Upon request these materials may be made available in an alternative format to persons with disabilities.

**REPORT FOR THE MEETING OF  
THE ADVISORY WATER COMMISSION OF THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
February 17, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Advisory Water Commission of the San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2016, beginning at 1:00 p.m., at Public Health Services, 1601 E. Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, California.

**Roll Call**

Present were Commissioners Nomellini, Swimley, Flinn, Winn, Herrick, Holbrook, Alternate Heberle, Commissioners Salazar, Jr., Hartmann, Meyers, Neudeck, Secretary Nakagawa, Vice Chairman Price, and Chairman McGurk.

Others present are listed on the Attendance Sheet. The Commission had a quorum.

**Approval of Minutes for the Meeting of January 20, 2016.**

A motion to approve the minutes as amended for the meeting of January 20, 2016 was passed unanimously. (Neudeck/Holbrook).

**SCHEDULED ITEMS**

Tom McGurk, Chairman of the Advisory Water Commission, led the agenda.

**I. Action Items:**

**A. Election of Officers for 2016 – Brandon Nakagawa**

Vice-Chairman Price stated his interest to continue in his position as Vice-Chairman. He expressed interest in discussing the origins of the Commission, its purpose and/or strategizing on positions to take before the Board of Supervisors.

Chairman McGurk stated that, if re-elected as Chair, he and the Vice-Chair would be interested in collaborating with Water Resources Staff on agenda items.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to close nominations for the Election of Officers of the Advisory Water Commission and renew current officer positions, including Secretary. The motion was unanimously approved. (Nomellini/Holbrook).

**II. Discussion Items:**

**A. Presentation and Discussion on Demonstration Recharge Extraction and Aquifer Management (DREAM) Project and Groundwater Export Ordinance Process – Brandon Nakagawa**

Secretary Nakagawa began his presentation by expressing that the DREAM Project has the potential to be a beneficial groundwater development pilot project with the opportunity to expand partnerships, which is unique during this time of developing state groundwater regulation. The DREAM Project has

many complexities and has been in the planning stages for several years. If the pilot project is successful, it may become a design in which more surface water could be put to use in the future.

Mr. Nakagawa acknowledged those present from North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD), which included: Directors David Simpson, NSJWCD Board Secretary, and Tom Flinn, NSJWCD Board Vice-President, who is also a Commission member of AWC.

The presentation included a summary of the following: DREAM project background, funding, NSJWCD distribution system improvements, property owner concerns, the permit process, the project schedule, the Board approval of an export permit, and the role of the members as Commissioners on the project commission.

Project Background: In the 1990's, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) and San Joaquin County contemplated a large-scale groundwater banking project. It was envisioned that American River water could be banked in a groundwater basin and as a result, San Joaquin County and EBMUD would both benefit from this supply in a dry year. This cumulated into a "test" project of 500 acre-feet in 1998. EBMUD requested a permit to export half the water, which was not approved by the Advisory Water Commission to recommend to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

EBMUD then pursued other options, namely the Freeport Regional Water Project. That project was completed in 2010 and tested well. Before retiring, Tom Gau, former San Joaquin County Public Works Director, recognized the importance of resurrecting this project as an opportunity for EBMUD and the County to bank and export groundwater. Discussions started in 2012 and an agreement between EBMUD and the County was reached in 2013 to develop this demonstration scale project. A 50/50 cost-share agreement to develop the project was reached between EBMUD and the County. Following a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, GEI Consultants, Inc. was hired with Mark Williamson as prime consultant. During this time, EBMUD was facing water rights protests against San Joaquin County, Delta agencies, Stockton East Water District (SEWD), and City of Lodi. These disputes went through the petition process and the involved parties, along with EBMUD settled those water rights protests. Those protest negotiations resulted in a Protest Dismissal Agreement (PDA), thus allowing the framework for funding and participation in the current DREAM Project.

Most of 2015 was spent developing the DREAM Project. Under the agreement, EBMUD provides water, up to 6,000 acre feet, to NSJWCD in a dry year. There is an additional 8,000 acre feet of wet-year water, possibly for SEWD if NSJWCD cannot resolve that water. EBMUD has agreed to provide seasonal storage of water in Camanche for other counties, which will, hopefully, open up the diversion window. The agreement is to temporarily store water in Camanche from December to June, and release water in July, August and September, which then opens up the diversion window for additional irrigation season water.

Funding: The PDA total was \$4 million in funding from EBMUD. Of that amount, \$1.75 million would be made available to be used by NSJWCD for distribution system improvements and the remainder was dedicated to the demonstration project, now known as the DREAM project.

The fundamentals of the project include:

1. Groundwater banking operations should remain under local control – locals will turn pump on/off;
2. Must provide benefits that make local conditions better – leaving behind half the water for future local use;
3. Provide mechanisms to monitor negative impacts, and comply with monitoring protocols established through a San Joaquin County approved export permit;

4. Improve water supply reliability and sustainability within the framework of existing water rights;
5. Establish feasibility by consensus through a combination of support from the public, permission from districts, sound engineering judgment, and good engineering practices;
6. Design restraints to fit within the \$4 million budget with strict adherence in the groundwater exporting permits;
7. Physically export banked groundwater;
8. Improve basin conditions; and
9. Develop upgrades to diversion facilities.

In addition, the project concept could be used for NSJWCD's future plans to expand and repair its South System. In an effort to develop the needed revenue, NSJWCD recently applied for a Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart \$1,000,000 Grant for pipeline repairs with some local agencies submitting letters of support to the USBR. Currently, there is minimal fill cover for the pipeline, which caused the pipeline to crack. The DREAM Project will require a minimum 4-foot cover to support pipeline repairs and guard against future cracking.

In addition, future use of that pipe could enable landowners to pump well water or surface water. The \$1.75 million allocated for NSJWCD's distribution system improvements will go towards the efficiency of an existing pump station at the Mokelumne River / Western Branch. Other areas of repair, to be funded by the WaterSmart Grant, are south of that pipeline as well as construction of a pressurized system in the future. Other proposed work for this DREAM Project would be repair of a diversion structure downstream from Pixie Slough, and a 12-inch diameter return pipeline. Recent water quality test on the extraction well proved good quality – low on pesticides and DOCs, and suitable for use by EBMUD. The DREAM Project cost is estimated at \$1.85 million, coupled with the \$1.75 million allocated to NSJWCD pump station, will fall beneath the \$4 million budget with enough cushion for recording, monitoring and electricity costs for the project.

Public Outreach and Export Permit Activities: The ordinance under which an export permit would be considered, calls for the review of wells within a two-mile radius to select and be used as "trigger wells" for monitoring purposes. Selected wells would serve as indicators of project impacts. Monitoring of these wells is scheduled to begin late summer 2016 and the data will be shared with EBMUD. A Monitoring Committee will be appointed by the Board of Supervisors and is proposed to consist of the Environmental Health Director, the Public Works Director, the applicant (NSJWCD, SEWD, or City), and a landowner. There is a public meeting scheduled for next Wednesday, February 24, 2016 to inform landowners in an approximate two-mile radius of the proposed project. Meeting invitations were sent to 550 landowners, representing approximately 220 parcels. Commissioner Holbrook asked if EBMUD would be on the Committee. Mr. Nakagawa responded this is something to be sorted out later as EBMUD is not an "applicant" but rather a customer.

Project schedule: Mr. Nakagawa explained that today is the opportunity to present to the Commission the project concept, layout, and restraints. The Public Review Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24, 2016. In early March, the Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration will be published which is an environmental document required by The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) initiating a 30-day public comment period. This public comment period will close in early April. Also scheduled in March are discussions to further clarify elements of the application, site agreements between all parties, and the process to publish the Notice of Permit application including a 30-day review period. In April, Mr. Nakagawa will update the Commission on the application, actual approvals and recommendations, term sheets, and/or conditioning sheets. It is possible that in May or June a Public Hearing could be scheduled with the Board of Supervisors to determine whether to grant the permit. Additional details are forthcoming as the schedule is refined.

Mr. Nakagawa concluded his presentation and discussion was opened.

Vice-Chair Price inquired on the technical meaning of “quantity of a wet year water supply”. Mr. Nakagawa responded that NSJWCD receives water only when there are spills on the Mokelumne River. The water for the DREAM project is coming from EBMUD. Mr. Dave Simpson, NSJWCD, added that per a current agreement between NSJWCD and EBMUD, EBMUD provides NSJWCD council with information regarding water storage in their reservoirs during the month of February which is the basis for determining a wet or dry year. Vice-Chair Price asked what conditions determine a wet or dry year? Mr. Simpson answered that it is a complex calculation including a certain capacity in the EBMUD storage system and precipitation in the water shed.

Mr. Simpson added that per the Fact Sheet included in the agenda packet and mailed out to the landowners, the total amount of water being proposed is 1,000 acre feet and is not forever. A total of 11,000 acre feet of water will be released from Camanche and NSJWCD will net 1,000 acre feet. Thus, landowners will use surface water in lieu of well water for irrigation purposes. In the winter, when groundwater is typically recovering, NSJWCD will work with EBMUD to pump that water out. The goal is not to dry up wells but to manage groundwater effectively. In the project area, the groundwater has been declining at one foot per year. Vice-Chair Price asked if the 1,000 acre feet is per winter season? Mr. Simpson clarified that NSJWCD will receive 1,000 acre feet of water during irrigation season, but extract 500 acre feet of water during winter months for the aqueduct. Furthermore, this project is not anticipated to run more than two years.

A question from the public asked for clarification from Mr. Nakagawa regarding his presentation and the “taking of groundwater” and the “SmartWater Grant.” Mr. Nakagawa responded there is an application from NSJWCD for the WaterSmart Grant which is made available by the Bureau of Reclamation for water system improvements. He also explained the demo/DREAM project is a “partnership” to recharge the groundwater basin in wet years by serving surface water to areas that would typically take groundwater, and then physically take groundwater and exporting it back to the “partner” (EBMUD), which is outside San Joaquin County thus requiring a permit. Commissioner Holbrook interjected that we are receiving 1,000 acre feet of water but giving up 500 acre feet thus giving up water when it is in abundance. Plus, well owners will have the right to request to shut off pumps if water levels drop. Mr. Nakagawa added that EBMUD is providing the \$4 million cost of the project per the settlement agreement between EBMUD and San Joaquin County. There were concerns expressed during public comment regarding whether an assessment would be established to fund the DREAM project. Mr. Simpson assured the audience that NSJWCD has no intention of developing an assessment for this project.

Commissioner Herrick inquired on a “key” to monitor the effects of water taken and/or extracted. Mr. Nakagawa referred back to the monitoring plan showing the extraction well map and pinpointed exactly where the surface water will be taken. He added that the groundwater to be used for recharge is more diffuse and harder to measure, which is why monitoring the levels in selected wells is critical. Commissioner Herrick inquired on what level amounts will be considered significant for this project? Commissioner Flinn commented this is a “test” project and needs to be done to understand. Data will be collected and conclusions drawn.

Vice-Chair Price asked if there is any progress on the original water rights in the Mokelumne beyond wet year water? Mr. Nakagawa responded that two years ago, Duck Creek was taken off the table as it was too expensive and not the right time to pursue that project. The new configuration alternative focuses on upgrades to the NSJWCD system, upgrade the capacity, and expand the irrigation diversion window with the seasonal water storage. There are still outstanding protests with Bureau of Reclamation, and WID but the DREAM Project is the focus on the Mokelumne. The Freeport Project

is a very expensive project energy-wise with other options being more cost effective. Freeport is not dead but has hurdles, including costs. Commissioner Nomellini commented that the steps working together with EBMUD and the DREAM Project could lead to utilization of some water beyond EBMUD.

A member of the public asked will EBMUD commit to funding the project before the trigger levels in the wells are established?; and what is the timing of the infrastructure improvements in relation to project timeline? Mr. Nakagawa responded that the cost-share agreement and the original agreement contemplates a number of triggers that will release the money, one of them being the permit. If a permit is not issued by the Board of Supervisors, there will not be \$4 million from EBMUD. There will only be the \$1.75 million for NSJWCD. This provision was included to ensure that NSJWCD would receive funding for their South system and not be contingent upon the success of the demo/DREAM project. In response to the second question asked, Mr. Nakagawa answered that the sequencing for the demo/DREAM project is: the export permit, release of funding, infrastructure engineering (NSJWCD has started the engineering endeavors to get the pump station going), and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) document (estimated posting date of March 1, 2016) with construction to begin in 2017. In 2018, water will be pumped onto a vineyard in the area. However, it may take more than one irrigation cycle to reach the demonstration size of 1,000 acre feet of water as the right conditions must be met to turn pumps on (not wet year) with an estimated run of 3-5 years for the demonstration/DREAM project.

A member of the public asked if reports are available with information pertinent to farmers and growers. Julianne Phillips, San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation (SJFB), interjected by stating that Farm Bureau has been working closely with the districts (EBMUD, NSJWCD, WID, SEWD and San Joaquin County) for over 2 ½ years on water issues at Water Committee meetings and encourages growers' suggestions and participation. Ms. Phillips added that SJFB publishes a bi-monthly article in the Stockton Record with a relevant article to be written for March 2016. Commissioner Nomellini added that he foresees the project as a working relationship under the ordinance, which serves to protect the County's interests and produce a mechanism that will allow for surplus water to be brought into bank, with limited extraction. He looks forward to seeing compliance with the ordinance and making it work in a reasonable way. Vice-Chair Price concurred with Commissioner Nomellini.

#### **B. Update on Senator Feinstein Introduction of Drought Relief Bill – Brandon Nakagawa**

Secretary Nakagawa addressed the recent press release (dated 2/10/16) of Senator Feinstein's revised drought bill. He added that the drought bill has been active for a few years and he was involved in meetings last summer with districts in the South County to discuss the pros and cons of the Congressman Valadao drought bill and the expected negotiations between the House and the Senate on the drought issues. Senator Feinstein and Senator Boxer have been the lead on the Senate side in negotiations, which fell apart in late 2015. Senator Feinstein is attempting to reignite those discussions and has asked Counties to provide direct input. We are in a good position to introduce our issues on the bill – support of South San Joaquin Irrigation District's (SSJID) pilot program on the Stanislaus River; a water rights issue regarding protections not being as strong as need be; and recognition of our repairing rights and salvage rights.

#### **C. Update on SGMA Activities – Brandon Nakagawa**

Secretary Nakagawa gave an update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) activities regarding the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development, and governance issues.

The County has started one-on-one meetings with agencies electing to become a GSA and discussions have been positive. Meetings have been held between the County and the City of Lodi, City of Ripon, City of Escalon, City of Manteca, Lockeford CSD, and SSJID. Upcoming meetings include SEWD, the City of Stockton, Cal Water, Lathrop, and Woodbridge, and second meetings with Lockeford and NSJWCD. Common important issues are ratepayer protection, agricultural versus urban, and authority within jurisdiction. Per SGMA requirements, there can be no overlapping issues, thus the goal is to remain respectful with jurisdictions. When considering the GSP, we need to evaluate such matters as for governance, jurisdiction overlaps, or possible payment(s). The overlapping and governance issues are very complex, and involve various agencies. We need to discuss and move through issues and meet deadlines. Tentative deadlines are to have overlap issues resolved by Fall of 2016, and have all paperwork completed and approved by the Board, then filed with DWR by June 30, 2017.

Progress has been made since the initiation of the SGMA Work Group discussions. The County is well-positioned to receive the \$250,000 grant from the State. Coupled with a \$250,000 match from San Joaquin County, there will be a total of \$500,000 to apply to the initial efforts in data collection, analysis, and tool development needed to draft a GSP compliant with forthcoming regulations.

In terms of GSA formation, the final outcome will likely be multiple GSAs in San Joaquin County. Mr. Nakagawa stated this is allowable under the SGMA but will require extensive coordination. As of the date of this meeting, February 17, 2016, DWR has presented draft of regulations for GSPs.

The No Regrets Data Collection – Ad Hoc Technical Review Committee (Ad Hoc TRC), formed to discuss and vet groundwater data and other technical issues, met last month and discussions were positive. DWR was in attendance and has agreed to meet regularly with the Ad Hoc TRC. Years ago DWR had a “working group” on these issues and we would like to re-establish that relationship to assist with complex issues such as regulation compliance, GSP development, data gathering and analysis and modeling. The next Ad Hoc TRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24, 2016.

Mr. Nakagawa concluded his update and discussion was opened.

Commissioner Nomellini asked if DWR has a model of the groundwater basins that we can use? Mr. Nakagawa replied that DWR does have a model which the grid-size is too coarse to be used locally and is not currently adequate to inform local efforts. DWR has some data but needs more and his opinion is that DWR could benefit from the data we are collecting. Mr. Nakagawa commented that DWR could set up milestone criteria and require that local areas determine how to achieve these goals (i.e. actions, policies, etc.). Commissioner Hartmann added that he met with DWR and confirmed yes, DWR has an evolutionary model and it is an open source. The model that San Joaquin County uses is incompatible with the DWR model.

Mr. Nakagawa stated that moving the current local model to a platform that DWR maintains could be viable if DWR had an open-source design. To do so would connect the local effort with DWR’s platform, and give DWR the ability to use the local model, dissect and evaluate it. Commissioner Nomellini expressed opinion that many models have been developed locally which have measured groundwater basins. He questioned how much more modeling is needed to develop a plan for sustainability? He suggests staff clarifies DWR’s expectations and the minimum objective is to DWR’s legal requirement(s), utilize the tools currently available and minimize funding dedicated to model development and data refinement. Mr. Nakagawa clarified that the decision to do another model will be addressed by the Ad Hoc TRC and it will make a recommendation to the SGMA Workgroup. He added the funding is in place, but insisted that the group be deliberate in its considerations and

decision. Based upon the feedback of consultants and from classes attended, DWR will be encouraging a model and policy. Commissioner Nomellini concluded that efforts are headed in the right direction with increased interaction between the Staff, the County and the State as well as outreach in the communities.

**D. Notice of 2015/2016 Statement of Economic Interests Form 700 Annual Filing –  
Brandon Nakagawa**

Secretary Nakagawa informed the Commission on the process to annually file the mandatory Statement of Economic Interests Form 700. The deadline for filing is April 1, 2016. The easiest way is to file one form listing every agency affiliation. Options to submit are delivering the Form 700 directly to the San Joaquin County Clerk of the Board, or to your respective agency’s legal counsel. Kelly Villalpando and/or Danielle Barney, Public Works – Water Resources, will be in contact with the Commission on the requirements and process.

**Public Comment:**

A member of the public commended Mr. Nakagawa on his recent article in the Lodi District Grape Grower’s Association News regarding the location and extent of dropping water levels in the County. She appreciated his informative and relatable writing style.

There was public comment recognizing the Delta as a “place” and establishing the Delta Counties California Island Parkway (DCCIP), a long-range plan for a two-island habitat (aquatic, agricultural or both) to protect and preserve the Delta.

**Next Regular Meeting:** March 16, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.  
Public Health Conference Room

**Adjournment:** 2:40 pm





**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
FLOOD CONTROL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**ADVISORY WATER COMMISSION  
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2016**

pg 1 of 2

**ATTENDANCE SHEET**

NAME	AFFILIATION	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PHONE
Emily Allen	Assemblymember K. Olsen	emily.allen@asm.ca.gov	576-6425
Juianne Phillips	SJFB	jphillips@sjfb.org	931-4931
Lynn Hoffman	SJC-PW-WR	mlhoffman@sjgov.org	468-3531
Michael Callahan	SUCPW	mcallahan@sjgov.org	468-9360
Kelly Vellalpanas	SJC PW WR	Kvellalpanas@sjgov.org	468-3073
Braff Williams	stakeholder	Same	
LANDON BLAKE	HAWKINS	LBLAKE@HAWKINS-ENG.COM	298-7521
Joaquin Cruz	EBMUD	jcruze@ebmud.com	510/287-0768
Gerard Schwartze	EBMUD		2743048
Tom Francis	EBMUD	tfrancis@ebmud.com	510 287 1303
MARK WILLIAMSON	GEI	MWILLIAMSON@GEICONCONSULTANTS.COM	916/631-4559
David Simpson	NSJWCD	simpson4groups@gmail.com	479-0653
Gary Prost	Congressman McNerney	gary.prost@mail.house.gov	476-8552
SCOT MOOSY	SJWCD		
REGINA RUBIER	COS	REGINA.RUBIER@STOCKTONCA.GOV	209-937-8782
KATHY MILLER	BOS	kmiller@sjgov.org	209-408-3113
Gerardo Dominguez	SJC-PW	gdominguez@sjgov.org	209-953-7948
John Herrick	SDWA	jherrick@aol.com	956-0150
DOUG HEBERLE	WID	heberlewid@gmail.com	625-8438
Charlie Swimley	City of Lodi	cswimley@lodi.gov	333 6706
Dante John Nonellini	CDWA	ngmples@pacbell.net	465-5883
Tom Flinn	NSJWCD	tomflinn2eme.com	334-0446
CHUCK WINN	SJC	CWINN@SJCA.ORG	468-3113
GEORGE V. HARRIMAN	2030 2074	grhlaw@gmail.com	956 9940
Will Price	At Large	same	



ATTACHMENT  
I.A.



San Joaquin County  
Public Works Department – Water Resources  
1810 E. Hazelton Avenue  
Stockton, CA 95205

SECOND EXTENSION OF PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD FOR  
PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Demonstration Recharge Extraction and  
Aquifer Management (DREAM) and  
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District  
South System Improvements Project

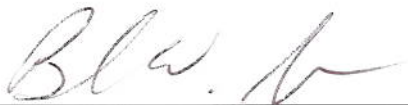
The County of San Joaquin has prepared an Initial Study (IS) of environmental effects, and intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), for a demonstration conjunctive use groundwater replenishment project and improvements to North San Joaquin Water Conservation District's (NSJWCD) South System surface water distribution facilities. A Notice of Intent (NOI) was published and circulated on March 4, 2016, which started the minimum mandated 30-day public review period that would have ended on April 4, 2016. The County hereby provides notice that the public review period is now extended to June 3, 2016. All other provisions of the NOI, and the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, remain as originally described.

The Demonstration Recharge Extraction and Aquifer Management (DREAM) Project involves the one-time application of 1,000 acre-feet (AF) of surface water supplied by the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) to existing developed farmland in lieu of existing groundwater extraction. The NSJWCD will extract up to 500 AF of groundwater and deliver it to the existing EBMUD aqueduct via a 2.8-mile pipeline to be constructed. The purpose of the project is to document the feasibility of in-lieu recharge and partial groundwater extraction for consideration in future projects. In addition, the NSJWCD proposes improvements to its existing South System surface water delivery system, including rehabilitation of existing pipelines and channels, existing agricultural diversion facilities along Bear Creek and Pixley Slough and construction of one new diversion on Pixley Slough.

The IS/MND has analyzed the potential environmental effects of the project in the range of environmental subject areas specified in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. On the basis of this analysis, the IS/MND finds that the project will not involve any significant environmental effects, provided that the mitigation measures described in the IS/MND are implemented.

Copies of the IS/MND are available for public review at the Public Works Department offices at 1810 E. Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, and the Lodi Library at 201 W. Locust Street, Lodi. Electronic copies of the IS/MND may be viewed or downloaded at the Department of Public Works' website: [www.sjgov.org/pubworks/](http://www.sjgov.org/pubworks/)

The County of San Joaquin will accept public and agency comments on the IS/MND until June 3, 2016. Comments may be sent to the San Joaquin County Public Works Department – Water Resources, 1810 E. Hazelton Avenue, Stockton, CA 95205, Attn: Michael Callahan, Senior Civil Engineer or by email to [mcallahan@sjgov.org](mailto:mcallahan@sjgov.org)



April 28, 2016

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Brandon W. Nakagawa, P.E.  
San Joaquin County Public Works Department

ATTACHMENT  
I.B.



Board of Supervisors  
San Joaquin County

MONICA NINO  
County Administrator

J. MARK MYLES  
County Counsel

MIMI DUZENSKI  
Clerk of the Board

MOSES ZAPIEN  
Chair  
Third District

BOB ELLIOTT  
Vice Chair  
Fifth District

CARLOS VILLAPUDUA  
First District

KATHERINE M. MILLER  
Second District

CHUCK WINN  
Fourth District

## Agenda

**EVENING STUDY SESSION ON THE TOPIC OF WATER  
BOARD CHAMBERS, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
44 N. SAN JOAQUIN STREET, 6TH FLOOR, STOCKTON, CA  
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2016  
5:30 PM**

Commencement of Meeting  
A Moment of Silence  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Announce Date of Meeting for the Record

### **DISCUSSION**

Provide Information Regarding the County's Positions on a Variety of Water Issues and Presentations on the Following:

- 1) Delta Issues with a Focus on California WaterFix and EcoRestore.
  - a) Discussion of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan and its Evolution to WaterFix/EcoRestore and the County's Position on WaterFix
  - b) Update on the Status of the Litigation Against Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Over its Acquisition of the Delta Wetlands Properties
  - c) Efforts of the County and Others to Control Invasive Aquatic Weeds in the Delta
- 2) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) – An Overview of SGMA and the County's Collaborative Efforts with Cities and Water Districts to Comply with the State Mandate.
- 3) Flood Control/Levees
  - a) Discussion of San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency Activities
    - (1) Smith Canal Gate Project
    - (2) Lower San Joaquin River Feasibility Study
  - b) Discussion Regarding SB 5 and its Regional Impacts
  - c) Discussion of Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Levees Investment Strategy

- 4) Discussion of the Board of Supervisors Involvement in Regional Water and Delta Agencies
  - a) Advisory Water Commission
  - b) Delta Protection Commission
  - c) Delta Coalition
  - d) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Persons wishing to address the Board may complete the Public Comment Form, which is located in the tray on the back wall of Chambers, or which may be obtained from the Board of Supervisors' Office, Suite 627. Completion of the Public Comment Form is voluntary. Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes. **Please no personal attacks.**

**ADJOURN TO TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2016 AT 9:00 A.M.**

Note: If you need disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at (209) 468-2350 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Government Code Section 54954.2(a).

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board of Supervisors after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Board of Supervisors' Office at 44 N. San Joaquin Street, Suite 627, Stockton, during normal business hours.



ATTACHMENT  
II.

**CAPITOL ALERT**    APRIL 19, 2016 4:06 PM

# Delta tunnels bill mandating voter approval advances

## HIGHLIGHTS

Voters would have to approve Delta tunnels

Massive project seeks to export water south

Gov. Jerry Brown remains a supporter



BY JEREMY B. WHITE

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A California Assembly committee on Tuesday moved to force a public vote on a controversial water conveyance project.

The \$15.5 billion plan to construct two massive water conveyance tunnels in the heart of California's water circulatory system has driven the latest round of a decades-long battle over exporting water from wetter Northern California to more populous Southern California.

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**BEFORE CONSTRUCTION CAN BEGIN, THE VOTERS OF CALIFORNIA SHOULD HAVE THE FINAL SAY.**

Assemblywoman Susan Eggman, D-Stockton

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Lawmakers representing the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta area, where signs opposing the project are ubiquitous features of the landscape, have clashed with a potent pro-tunnels coalition of business groups, organized labor and major urban and agricultural water importers. Backing a public vote were agricultural organizations and elected officials from Delta jurisdictions like Solano County, Contra Costa County, San Joaquin County and Sacramento County.

Assemblywoman Susan Eggman, D-Stockton, noted that voters previously given a chance to weigh in on a water conveyance proposal decisively rejected the Peripheral Canal in 1982. The tunnels should be no different, she said.

“Some projects have such statewide significance, and carry such a substantial price tag, that they warrant a statewide vote,” Eggman said. “Before construction can begin, the voters of California should have the final say.”

While Assembly Bill 1713 passed on a 8-2 vote, the minimum margin for success, it has little chance of winning Gov. Jerry Brown's signature should it reach his desk. Brown has vocally defended the project, arguing opponents have failed to come up with a better way to shore up water deliveries and revive the Delta's faltering ecosystem.



Cesar Diaz, a lobbyist for the State Building and Construction Trades Council who was among those to testify against Eggman's bill, said it imposed an unreasonable standard on public infrastructure projects. He argued the tunnels already enjoy broad political support.

"We don't agree on very much, but we do agree on this project," Diaz said, referencing the business-labor alliance advocating the project.

Similar fault lines guided debate around Assembly Bill 2583, which would have thrown roadblocks in front of the tunnels by requiring more extensive environmental review and funding pledges from water agencies.

Lawmakers rejected that bill. Opponents representing water importers and organized labor argued it would drastically slow a project that has already been exhaustively reviewed, saying individual water agencies would effectively be able to veto the project.

*Jeremy B. White: 916-326-5543, @CapitolAlert*

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### Bill to protect state's aquifers, groundwater moves forward

Wolk bill to provide safe drinking water to underserved communities also approved

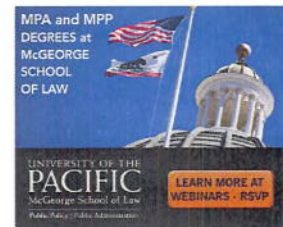
*From the Office of Senator Wolk:*

Legislation by Senator Lois Wolk (D-Davis) to protect California's aquifers and groundwater resources from permanent damage due to overdraft was approved by the Senate Governance and Finance Committee today on a 5-2 vote.



Wolk's Senate Bill 1317 addresses a sharp increase in groundwater extraction through new and deeper drilling across the state during the drought, including water basins currently in critical overdraft.

"This is a serious problem that affects everyone, and it's getting worse," Wolk said. "New investors are farming land that has never been farmed, planting permanent crops and tapping into already overdrafted aquifers to support these new, significant water demands. Unmitigated, rapid



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groundwater withdrawals are causing the wells of current homeowners, communities and farmers to go dry. This can force residents and farmers to dig new or deeper wells at great personal expense. Aqueducts and roads are cracking as aquifers collapse due to overdraft. Until we can figure out how to manage this problem and these aquifers sustainably we need to stop new or deeper drilling in already critically overdrafted water basins."

SB 1317 would protect aquifers by requiring cities and counties overlying high and medium priority basins to apply conditions to permits for new wells by July 1, 2017. Counties that have enacted their own measures to protect aquifers would be exempt from from this requirement—as would wells yielding small amounts of water, or replacement wells.

SB 1317 also prohibits drilling new wells in 21 critically overdrafted groundwater basins and basins that are in probationary status until an ordinance is established by the county.

SB 1318, another Wolk water measure, was approved today by the Senate Committee on Environmental Quality. SB 1318 will protect hundreds of thousands of California families living in disadvantaged communities that still have no access to safe and reliable drinking water or adequate sanitation services.

"All Californians have the right to safe drinking water," Wolk said. "For too long, these disadvantaged communities have been left behind. SB 1318 will help provide families in these communities with long overdue access to clean, safe and reliable drinking water and wastewater services and prevent another situation like the world saw in Flint, Michigan."

Under SB 1318, cities and special districts would be required to offer wastewater and drinking water services to disadvantaged communities prior to extending services to other areas.

Both SB 1317 and SB 1318 will next be heard by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

## Policy papers from the conference, "Water and Fire: Impacts of Climate Change"

The [Institute on Science for Global Policy](#) and [California State University, Sacramento](#) hosted a climate change conference to guide policy and science. *Water and Fire:*

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all-day 2016 Water Technology Conference  
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**9:00 am** Delta Independent Science Board  
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**5:30 pm** San Joaquin County public forum ...  
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## Delta land buy still a 'go'

By ALEX BREITLER | Published: MAY 11, 2016 | [Leave a comment](#)

Southern California's huge water wholesaler declined to reverse course Tuesday on the purchase of roughly 20,000 acres of land in the Delta, a \$175 million deal that has Delta advocates worried.

A vote to pull out of the deal failed 54 percent to 29 percent, with another 10 percent abstaining.

The decision came despite Stockton-based Restore the Delta's delivery of 10,223 signatures from those opposing the purchase. Restore the Delta has argued that the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's primary interest in buying the land is to facilitate the construction of Gov. Jerry Brown's twin tunnels.

"We ask, 'Does it make financial sense for Metropolitan to spend \$175 million to purchase land to support an infrastructure project that will not meet Southern California's water needs?'" Esperanza Vielma, with Restore the Delta, asked Metropolitan's Board of Directors.

Metropolitan hasn't denied that the tunnels are part of its interest in the property, but says it has other motivations as well, such as shoring up levees and restoring wildlife habitat, actions which in turn could help protect the agency's water supply.

When Metropolitan first approved the deal earlier this year, some board members made clear they wanted another bite at the apple before escrow closed in June. Representatives from Los Angeles, Santa Monica and San Diego voted to block the deal altogether.

Sure enough, after an informational briefing on Tuesday, Keith Lewinger, one of Metropolitan's San Diego board members, moved to pull out of the deal.

Suja Lowenthal, who represents Long Beach on the board, supported the motion, saying that a position on the tunnels should come before purchasing the property, which would be "premature" at this point.

"I think it would be wise for us to wait," Lowenthal said.

Other board members disagreed. Gloria Gray, a former member of the state's Delta Stewardship Council, said Metropolitan's consideration of the land buy had been "thorough."

"I think it is a good investment," she said.

Litigation to stop the deal is still pending, with a key court date scheduled for May 19.

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### Blog Author

#### Alex Breitler



A native of Benicia, he lives in Stockton with his wife, Ann, who forces him to go backpacking in the Sierra Nevada or Trinity Alps at every opportunity. He has been writing mostly about natural resources since 2003, first in Redding and now in ... [Read Full](#)

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