



**MEMORANDUM**  
OFFICE OF THE  
**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**  
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Holly L. Heinzen, Assistant County Executive Officer

DATE: September 27, 2011

SUBJECT: Placer County Water Agency Presentation

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Staff from the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) will present information to the Board of Supervisors regarding legislative changes and regulatory actions resulting in continued challenges in maintaining and managing our water resources.

Concerns exist as to the potential risks that threaten among other things, water supply reliability, land use, economic development and water and wastewater rates. In order to protect this resource, PCWA is seeking support of a regional effort in support of principles for a Delta solution.

This is presented as information for your Board today. Staff would return at an upcoming Board meeting should your Board be interested in taking formal action.

TM:HH

Attachments: PCWA Memo  
Opinion Article  
Adopted PCWA Resolution



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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Einar Maisch, PCWA Director of Strategic Affairs  
DATE: September 20, 2011  
RE: Delta Issues

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The PowerPoint presentation will highlight the myriad of concurrent regulatory and legislative developments that threaten our region's water resources. The purpose of the presentation is to educate opinion leaders in the region as a means to bring our grassroots concerns to the attention of enough state elected officials to cause reconsideration of the current course of events.

The PCWA Board of Directors has passed a resolution joining a regional effort in support of principles for a Delta solution. We would ask the Placer County Board of Supervisors to join the PCWA Board in publicly supporting these principles and the regional effort.

Attached for your further information is a copy of PCWA's Resolution 11-31 and an opinion article from the chairman of the PCWA Board which we have submitted to the local newspapers in Placer County.

# Sacramento Region Water Resource Coalition Framework

September 1, 2011

## Background

Recent Delta legislation, regulations, and plans pose serious risks to the economy, environment, and quality of life in the six-county Sacramento region and beyond in northern California. These efforts raise concerns about water supply reliability, land use, flood protection, economic development, water and wastewater rates, local environmental resources, water quality, agricultural viability, power generation, financing for Delta improvements, and related impacts.

In November 2009, the Legislature passed, and Governor Schwarzenegger signed, five water-related bills. One, SBx7 7 (Steinberg), required our region to reduce per capita water use 20% by 2020, whether or not it made economic sense locally. Another bill, SBx7 1 (the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act), established the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) and called for the development of a Delta Plan to achieve statewide water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration. Five drafts of the Delta Plan have been released this year and have raised the concerns noted above. It is generally agreed that the problems of the Delta must be solved, but many stakeholders are concerned about impacts to our region. Stakeholders are calling for a regional coalition that can help us get ahead of issues and address concerns as a region, with a stronger voice and common objectives.

## Regional Water Coalition Concept

As envisioned, founding members of the coalition, responsible for much of the initial coordination, outreach, and management would include SACOG, Regional Water Authority (RWA), Northern California Water Association (NCWA), and Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA), and others. Since the impacts of a Delta solution could be widespread and pervasive in our region, the coalition would seek support from a broad and diverse group of interests, including business, labor and local governments. The coalition would focus on shared regional concerns and would not be intended to replace or constrain individual actions on issues, but to complement and strengthen such efforts. The coalition could evolve to serve a number of functions including:

- Educating and informing interested parties on the status and potential impacts of Delta activities and related land use and water management issues,
- Aligning and coordinating the individual actions of coalition partners on issues,
- Identifying and educating those seeking a more active role in advocating for the region, and
- Providing a more influential voice before the legislature and the administration.

Specific activities of the coalition for the near-term could include:

- Outreach to broaden solution-focused input and participation.
- Periodic meetings to discuss issues and develop regional positions and workable solutions.
- Disseminating information and status updates through email or newsletters.
- Providing a clearinghouse for comment letters, positions, and other information from individual coalition members to improve communication.
- Suggesting content for letters and comments from coalition members.
- Convening a regional forum on water issues.
- Coordinating legislative advocacy efforts.

**RESOLUTION NO. 11-31**  
**OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE**  
**PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY**  
**SUPPORTING PARTICIPATION IN A REGIONAL WATER RESOURCES**  
**COALITION**

WHEREAS, the six-county Sacramento Region and adjacent areas of northern California can benefit from regional coordination and collaboration in developing implementable solutions to future water resources challenges and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, proposed solutions for the Delta could pose serious risks to the water supplies, economy, environment, and quality of life of the Sacramento region and northern California, and

WHEREAS, in order to protect these interests PCWA seeks to promote regional cooperation on water issues, and to be a part of a collaborative and comprehensive solution to the issues facing the Delta,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Directors of Placer County Water Agency that the Agency supports a regional coalition of public entities to participate in efforts to develop a solution to the problems facing the Delta based on the following principles:

1. Water rights priorities and area-of-origin assurances must be recognized and protected to ensure reliable supplies for all water uses and environmental needs in our region.
2. Stakeholders in the Sacramento region and northern California must be given the opportunity to be fully included in and consulted on all aspects of development of a Delta solution and other state and federal water policies that affect the region.
3. A Delta solution and other state or federal actions must honor and not reduce or preempt the authority and responsibilities of cities, counties, and other local agencies.

4. The Sacramento region and northern California will continue to invest in and implement water supply, water efficiency, recycling and re-use, storage, and other water management projects and programs that are cost-effective and improve our regional self-sufficiency.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The Agency supports a Delta solution that:

1. Is based on sound science to ensure it is effective and implemented in an equitable manner,
2. Requires the beneficiaries of any actions associated with a Delta solution to fully fund the costs of such actions, and
3. Does not shift negative economic, environmental, or societal impacts to areas in our region.

The foregoing Resolution was duly passed at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Placer County Water Agency held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2011, by the following vote on roll call:

AYES DIRECTORS: Gray Allen, Alex Ferreira, Mike Lee,  
Chair Lowell Jarvis

NOES DIRECTORS: None

ABSENT DIRECTORS: ~~Absent~~ Ben Mavy

Signed and approved by me after its passage this 15<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2011.

  
Chairman, Board of Directors  
Placer County Water Agency

ATTEST:

  
Clerk, Board of Directors  
Placer County Water Agency