

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 2, 2014

The Honorable Mike Simpson  
Chairman  
Energy and Water Development, and  
Related Agencies Subcommittee  
Committee on Appropriations  
2362-B Rayburn HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur  
Ranking Member  
Energy and Water Development, and  
Related Agencies Subcommittee  
Committee on Appropriations  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Kaptur:

We urge the committee to adopt the legislative language request below, which prohibits the Department of the Interior from evaluating any permit related to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) until it examines a comprehensive analysis of how to improve and expand water storage, water reuse, water recycling, and conservation, in order to reduce water exports from the San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

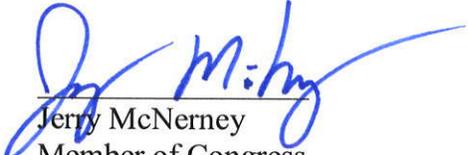
California's complex water system is operated at both the state and federal levels. Its system is essential for supporting natural land and wildlife ecosystems, providing drinking water for more than 28 million people, and sustaining the most robust agriculture production in the world. The hub of this valuable, but finite, resource is the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Currently, California is in a declared drought emergency: the state is in its third straight year of drought conditions; snowpack and reservoir levels are at historic lows; cities are running out of water; and agricultural producers have had to fallow land and sell off livestock. The BDCP will affect all of California. However, the plan as drafted does not address the need for additional water in California; in fact, it does not create any new water.

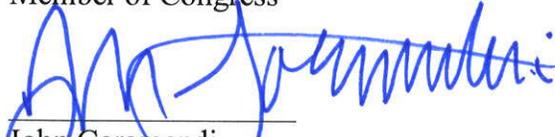
We believe that state governments and the federal government should invest in projects that benefit the public and address existing needs. California needs more water for its residents, businesses, agricultural producers, and environment. Requiring a comprehensive strategy for creating more useable water is a common sense solution and deserves your committee's attention.

During this time of limited budgets at all levels of government, as well as devastating drought in much of the Western U.S, state-federal partnerships should focus on cost-effective, innovative ways to approach real problems. Identifying water reuse, storage, and recycling options for California's water system is the right approach to this critical problem. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

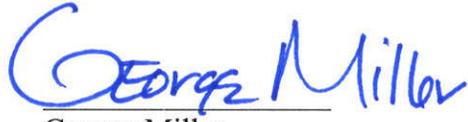
Sincerely,

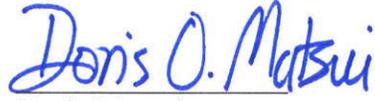
  
Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress

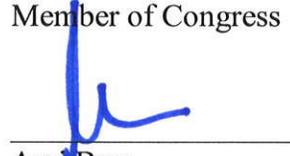
  
Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress

  
John Garamendi  
Member of Congress

  
Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

  
George Miller  
Member of Congress

  
Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress

  
Ami Bera  
Member of Congress

Legislative Language:

The Department of the Interior shall not evaluate any permit application in relation to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan until it first examines a comprehensive analysis of how to improve and expand water storage, water reuse, water recycling efforts, and conservation, in order to reduce water exports from the San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.