Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 16, 2016

Ms. Felicia Marcus
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100
Sacramento, C.A. 95812-0100

Dear Chairwoman Marcus and Board members:

We write today in reaction to the State Water Resources Control Board's revised Draft Substitute Environmental Document (SED) in support of Phase 1 of the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. We are deeply concerned about the impacts the plan would cause to our constituents.

We are requesting that you extend your public comment period to no less than 90-days regarding the SED. It is vital that the farmers and communities involved in agriculture's ongoing harvest be provided adequate time to analyze the proposed plan in order to develop responses.

It is also our understanding that the State Water Resources Control Board (Board) did not ever hold a public meeting in San Joaquin, Stanislaus or Merced counties. This is unacceptable and we request the Board to hold public forums in each affected county, including San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced, so the impacted communities can have their input heard and considered.

It is our position that any water releases ordered meet critical human needs and the benefits of additional water releases above current operating standards be justified with scientific and ecological benefits defined prior to any changes. In order to ensure that outcome, it is imperative that the Board operate with full, open transparency and involve the local communities impacted by any proposed plan.

Once again we request that you extend your public comment period to no less than 90-days and that you hold public hearings in San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced counties regarding your September 15, 2016 SED draft proposal.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jeff Denham
United States Representative

Jim Costa
United States Representative

Tom McClintock
United States Representative

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