



# CENTRAL DELTA WATER AGENCY

235 East Weber Avenue • P.O. Box 1461 • Stockton, CA 95201  
Phone (209) 465-5883 • Fax (209) 465-3956

## DIRECTORS

*George Biagi, Jr.*  
*Rudy Mussi*  
*Edward Zuckerman*

## COUNSEL

*Dante John Nomellini*  
*Dante John Nomellini, Jr.*

May 14, 2020

Re: Proposed May 22, 2020 Letter to Initiate USACE 408  
Review for the Proposed Delta Conveyance Project

Via email: [Leslie.Gallagher@cvflood.ca.gov](mailto:Leslie.Gallagher@cvflood.ca.gov)

Leslie Gallagher, Executive Officer  
Central Valley Flood Protection Board  
3310 El Camino Ave. Room 170  
Sacramento, California 95821

Dear Leslie:

We appreciate the CVFPB willingness to revise the proposed March 17, 2020 letter to the USACE however a very important element is missing. There are a number of applications for repair, rehabilitation and improvement of local project levees which are, after years, still in process with the USACE. The USACE has limited staff and must coordinate with other agencies such as the USF&W and NMFS which also have limited staff. It is critically important that the USACE review of the flood risk reduction projects not be hindered by the initiation of review of the Delta Conveyance Project. Due to budget constraints the USACE has accepted funding from permit applicants to continue review of their applications leaving other applications with earlier filing dates left behind. Such appears to be the case with the Delta Conveyance Project. Some local maintaining agencies have also entered into agreements with the USACE to pay the cost of review yet it appears that Delta Conveyance may get preference.

The CVFPB responsibility is flood protection, including maintenance of the integrity of the State Plan of Flood Control project levees. It is critically important that the CVFPB assure that USACE review of flood risk reduction applications be given a priority over the Delta Conveyance Project.

If not already completed, the CVFPB should, prior to requesting initiation of USACE review of the Delta Conveyance Project, ascertain the status of review of pending applications for flood risk reduction projects and seek assurance from the USACE that the review of the flood risk reduction applications will be completed prior to allocation of staff resources to the conveyance project. If funding is an issue then the local maintaining agency should be given the opportunity to provide the funding, if it has not already agreed. The priority of the CVFPB should be flood risk reduction, not Delta Conveyance.

It should be noted that scoping for the Delta Conveyance Project has not yet been concluded.

Yours very truly,

Dante John Nomellini Sr.

Cc: via email:

Kanwarjit Dua <[Jit.Dua@cvflood.ca.gov](mailto:Jit.Dua@cvflood.ca.gov)  
M Porbaha <[Mohammad.porbaha@cvflood.ca.gov](mailto:Mohammad.porbaha@cvflood.ca.gov)  
Andrea Buckley <[Andrea.Buckley@cvflood.ca.gov](mailto:Andrea.Buckley@cvflood.ca.gov)  
Kristina Reese <[Kristina.Reese@water.ca.gov](mailto:Kristina.Reese@water.ca.gov)  
Carrie Buckman <[Carrie.Buckman@water.ca.gov](mailto:Carrie.Buckman@water.ca.gov)  
Kevin Lee <[Kevin.C.Lee@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kevin.C.Lee@usace.army.mil)