

SCVWD 08/22/17 Meeting – Rod Kirk (EcoGreen Group of Silicon Valley) Comments

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Hello. My name is Rod Kirk and I am the Director of the EcoGreen Group of Silicon Valley. My comments reflect the collective ideas of the EcoGreen Group with respect to the Delta Tunnels Project.

I realize that it's a daunting task to make such an important fiduciary decision for the water users of the SCVWD. As you ponder all the information that has been presented to you, we urge you to scrutinize all of the data and comments with the following yardstick:

- Is the assumption or the data valid? Has it been substantiated? By who? Are you 100% convinced this is valid data or "wishful thinking"?
- Has the stated fact been validated by a respected and competent person in their area of expertise? Are you 100% convinced?
- In other words, separate the true scientifically substantiated facts from the "wishful thinking" pseudo data used to try and sway thinking.
- If you can't convince yourself that what you are reading is a supported fact, then reject it and vote against the Delta Tunnels Project!

There are a few points we would like to support:

1) The 2009 Delta Reform Act requires us to lessen our dependence on the estuary and to move toward regional water sustainability. We must begin complying with this law now! Voting to join the Delta Tunnels Project violates this act!

2) We agree with other groups that the current MWD Cost Assessment White Paper uses inaccurate assumptions to arrive at inadequate results.

3) The economic model does not adequately show the detailed analysis for the complete range from drought to normal conditions overlaid with various levels of non-participation. How can a fiduciary decision be made under these conditions?

4) We do not support a project that will result in worsened water quality for the South Bay. Water quality in the South Bay is directly dependent on the flushing action from fresh water from the Delta.

- 5) *We do not support a project that will divert even more water from an already impacted San Francisco Bay-Delta estuary to big, industrial agriculture known for record use of pesticides and chemicals that get into our food supply.*
- 6) *We do not want to pay for a project that will cost approximately \$1 billion before cost over runs and that will not provide the District with additional water supply. Staff estimates of increased water supply are not accurate. Please consult the CA WaterFix website and look at climate change modeling done by environmental NGOs.*
- 7) *We do not support Santa Clara Valley Water District partnering with San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority to weaken Bay-Delta water quality standards through litigation or public media campaigns.*
- 8) *We do not support the use of Ad Valorem property taxes to pay for Delta tunnels planning, construction or operation, or for supporting anti-Delta programs in partnership with San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority*
- 9) *We do not want use ratepayer money to support a project that will add to the destruction of an important California natural water system that took thousands of years to evolve. Once it is destroyed, there is no turning back.*
- 10) *We highly support the use of ratepayer money toward conservation, storm water capture, ground water capture and clean up, water infrastructure improvements, and recycling projects. These are more effective uses for our money.*