

# Help stop the Tunnels permits:

**We need YOU to write to the Water Board!**  
**Deadline extended to July 22.**



Write to the Water Board  
**STOP THE TUNNELS**  
NO to the Tunnels permits!

## On July 26, the State Water Resources Control Board will begin hearings on the Tunnels.

The issue is whether to grant permits to divert the Sacramento River in the North Delta. *Without these permits, the Tunnels cannot be built.* That's why we need EVERYONE to write "Policy Statements" to send to the Water Board! The Board needs to hear how the Tunnels will negatively affect your life, your community, your livelihood, the Delta and Northern California. Our goal is to block these permits by showing the Board that the Tunnels would be a disaster for the Delta.

**Mark your calendar for the North Delta CARES hearing on Wednesday, July 27.** North Delta CARES will deliver your written Policy Statements to the Board. **We strongly encourage you to come to read your statement at the hearing.** We want a show of force from the Delta! See the back page for time and location.

## What are the Water Board hearings about?

To build the Tunnels, the proponents must get permits adding new "points of diversion" on the Sacramento River. Many environmental groups, cities and Northern California water agencies are filing formal protests, which are legal cases argued before the Board. Individuals can participate by writing Policy Statements – comments describing the negative impacts the Tunnels will have on citizens, communities, water quality, wildlife, etc. More at <http://bit.ly/1MwVbsm>.

## What are Policy Statements?

Policy Statements are comments from the public. Don't be put off by the bureaucratic language – Policy Statements are simply comments similar to those many people submitted during the BDCP

process. Think of it as a letter telling the Board how the Tunnels will negatively impact you and the Delta.

## Where can I find background information to help me write my statement?

Our friends at Restore the Delta have posted an excellent collection of comments on the 2015 Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report. See <http://bit.ly/295vM8Q>. Here you'll find ideas for your statements, supporting documentation and more. Feel free to quote from these documents, and please note the source.

The 2015 Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report is at: <http://bit.ly/1WKx2R7>.

The 2013-14 DEIR/EIS is at <http://bit.ly/28T7uhS>.

A summary of significant and unavoidable impacts is at <http://bit.ly/28WlyuC>.



## How long should my statement be?

If you are coming to the hearing to read your statement aloud, each statement has a 3-minute time limit, so we recommend that your statement be one typed page or shorter (single-spaced). If you do not plan to read your statement, it can be of any length

## How should my statement be formatted?

You can write it in a Word document, an email, or by hand. Be sure to include your name and mailing address. Again, you can attach images to your statement if you wish.

## Can I see examples of statements?

Yes, there are examples at [www.NorthDeltaCares.org](http://www.NorthDeltaCares.org).

## When is my statement due?

**Please send your statement no later than July 22, 2016.** This will give us time to compile the statements for presentation.

## Where should I send my statement?

Please send your statement to North Delta CARES. You can email your statement to [deltaactioncommittee@gmail.com](mailto:deltaactioncommittee@gmail.com). Please include "Policy Statement" in your subject line. You can also mail it to Anna Swenson at P.O. Box 223 Clarksburg, CA 95612.

## If I have questions, whom should I contact?

Contact Anna Swenson at 530-570-9641 or [deltaactioncommittee@gmail.com](mailto:deltaactioncommittee@gmail.com).

Thank you!

## Where and when will the hearings be held?

Our day at the Water Board is July 27, 2016 starting at 9:00 a.m. The SWRCB is located at 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. That is the corner of 10th & I in the Cal EPA Building. Parking is available across the street in the City Hall Garage on I Street between 10th and 11th.

## Spread the word!

Hand out this flyer (download at [NorthDeltaCares.org](http://NorthDeltaCares.org)), post on social media) tell your friends and neighbors!

## What impacts should I talk about in my statement?

Any impact that interests you, and/or any that will affect you, your family, your livelihood, your community, your school, your church, etc. Feel free to attach images to your statement – photos, maps, artwork, cartoons – that illustrate your points. Here are a few ideas for topics:

### Water quality impacts:

- Dewatering effects on local wells
- Saltwater intrusion – effects on irrigation and drinking water
- Toxic algae blooms
- Concentrated contaminants

### Levees & roads:

- Truck traffic impacts on wildlife and the Stone Lakes refuge
- Interruption of farming activities, tourism, schools, communities
- Road and levee damage from heavy trucks
- Levee damage from scouring below coffer dams

### Farming:

- Permanent loss of farmland east of the river. Farmland may also be lost on the west side of the river if setback levees are built across from the intakes. Cofferdams needed to build the intakes will restrict the flow of the river, so "setback levees or other measures" will be needed to maintain flow capacity. See Chapter 6, page 59, lines 3-13 of the 2013-14 DEIR/DEIS at <http://bit.ly/28T7uhS>.
- Drainage impairment
- Inability to move farm equipment on local roads
- Loss of farm income; impacts to the local economy

### Homes:

- Loss of homes on Sacramento County side of the river. Possible loss of homes on the Yolo side as well due to setback levees. See the section on farming at left.

### Impacts to fish and wildlife

### Impacts to community activities; for example, Pear Fair access

### Transformation of scenic rural landscape to industrial landscape

### Construction impacts:

- Air pollution from diesel use during construction
- Road surface damage from heavy trucks
- Traffic congestion on local roads
- Impediments to boating and recreation
- Noise from construction and pile driving
- Vibration damage to buildings from pile driving

And too many more to list! For more ideas and facts, read Restore the Delta's compilation of comments from tunnels opponents at <http://bit.ly/295vM8Q>. You can quote from these comments – just be sure to note the source.

Also, if you quote from someone else's comments, and copy-and-paste from a PDF, sometimes you will have inappropriate line breaks in the text. You can fix many (but not all) of these bad breaks with an online tool at <http://bit.ly/1mVnuRQ>.