

Exhibit A
Draft Opposition Letter
AB 1594 (Huber): Delta Conveyance

February 12, 2010

Assembly Member Jared Huffman
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3120
Sacramento, California

Re: AB 1594 (Huber): Peripheral Canal – **OPPOSE**
Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

Dear Assembly Member Huffman:

As a recipient of water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and a supporter of the California Legislature's co-equal goals of restoring the Delta and providing reliable water supplies, the undersigned strongly opposes AB 1594 by Assembly Member Alyson Huber. AB 1594 seeks to replace last year's historic legislative package to address the Delta crisis with a cumbersome and unnecessary process that would force the Legislature to design all of the very crucial details of the necessary conveyance improvements in the Delta.

Water supplies for 25 million Californians and millions of acres of agriculture are in jeopardy because of the worsening environmental crisis in the Delta. Bold action is critical. The Delta legislative package adopted last year will help to restore water supplies by providing clear ground rules for a comprehensive ecosystem restoration/water system strategy that is emerging through the Bay Delta Conservation Plan. The Legislature explicitly added extensive safeguards to this process, such as the requirement that the Plan comply with the highest environmental standard and review a variety of water conveyance options.

There is simply no need for an additional economic review by the Legislative Analyst's Office as mandated by AB 1594. The Bay Delta Conservation Plan incorporates numerous layers of economic impacts analysis and risk analysis, which further complements the extensive requirements under existing state environmental law.

And, there is also no need for the Legislature to be forced to design all of the details of the future water system for the Delta as envisioned by the approval process in AB 1594. This bill is a thinly-veiled attempt to stop progress in the Delta. The Legislature provided sound and balanced policy direction in last year's package that

should not be undermined by AB 1594. The status quo in the Delta is unacceptable for the environment and the state economy, and dramatic action is absolutely necessary.

Please do not make the Delta crisis even worse by adding redundant and dangerous steps to an already complicated, comprehensive process. Please support action in the Delta by strongly opposing AB 1594. If you should need any additional information regarding our assessment of AB 1594, please do not hesitate to contact me at (310) 660-6200.

Sincerely,

cc: Members of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee
Assembly Member Alyson Huber
Assembly Member Wes Chesbro
Assembly Member Paul Fong
Assembly Member Ted Gaines
Assembly Member Tom Torlakson
Assembly Member Mariko Yamada

Consultant to the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee
Doug Haaland, Assembly Republican Caucus