



**Briefing on Portfolio-Based Conceptual Alternative for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan**

**Background**

In January, a coalition of environmental and business groups called on state and federal officials to consider a portfolio-based approach as an alternative to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). In a letter to U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, California Natural Resources Secretary John Laird and other officials, the coalition proposed the conceptual alternative as a more effective and affordable package of solutions to address the water and environmental challenges of the Delta. Coalition members include The Bay Institute, the Contra Costa Council, Defenders of Wildlife, Environmental Entrepreneurs, the Planning and Conservation League, and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Separately, seven urban water agencies, including the San Diego County Water Authority, Alameda County Water District, Contra Costa Water District, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Otay Water District, the City of San Diego and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, sent a letter to state and federal officials asking that the conceptual alternative be thoroughly studied as an alternative in the environmental review process for the BDCP.

The portfolio-based proposal calls for a scaled-down conveyance facility from that which is currently being proposed as part of the BDCP, and investments in local water supply sources, regional coordination, south of Delta storage, levee improvements, and habitat restoration.

Barry Nelson, Senior Policy Analyst for the Natural Resources Defense Council and Jonathan Clay representing San Diego County Water Authority will make a presentation to the Commission.

**Contact**

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