

From: David [redacted]
To: [California Water Commission](#)
Subject: Temperance Flat
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Hello, I was not able to attend the workshop held in Fresno just 2 days ago but want to give an opinion about the proposed Temperance Flat Dam. I understand the politics involved here, but so many factors to be considered. First even if a new dam was built there are no guarantees that true storage for future dry years will be achieved. The water users will see the storage as more available water for expansion and or to add crops that are more valuable per acre, meaning more money in the pockets of the user not the public. The public is expected to pay for this dam with tax money, and pay through the loss of environment that has flora and fauna not found anywhere else on earth. How do you square this circle, money for those who have not prepared for extended dry periods in their farming business with loss of environment and citizen tax dollars. Why does the public need to bail out the farm community when farmers are smart they knew a draught would come someday, why didn't they prepare many years ago for this day, it's simple, profit for them is their only consideration, This is similar to Wall street bail out. Tax payer again having to sacrifice to bail out those who know better but just continue on until a crisis is at hand then begging the public to bail them out. Please understand that If the public pays for more storage to bail out farmers then the public should now have control of how the water is used. The water storage or reservoir's we have now and those on future should be monitored with this draught as an example, not using until emergency would be a great starter. So I am not totally against more storage as in more dams but am against the control of these storage facilities being given to the farmers who would most defiantly abuse their privilege. Please consider my points before spending our taxes on these new dams.

Second, the environment is a considerable concern to me. I understand the ultimate circle of life with water, the rivers and fish are important to the food chain just like farming is important to the existence of humans. So do not let the Ag powers stop the rivers so they can ultimately make more money. Yes the economic impact is terrible and many will suffer, but farming can and will continue somewhere. Farm workers may have to relocate etc, but farms will fill the markets somehow somewhere. The economic loss if stopping the rivers would be 20 times more drastic.

Finally I think we can't as an informed society, let economic super powers, as the huge Ag community is, dictate how to use a finite source of water to only their benefit. We must prioritize the use of water for the maximum life sustaining usage not the greatest profit per acre. Profits will always be there for the ag community. Water may not be, more storage does not guarantee more water.

Thank you please consider my points.

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