

This chapter discusses California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) completed and planned public involvement activities related to the Delta Conveyance Project environmental review process.

Public participation is a cornerstone of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), with opportunities for public participation required during the environmental review process. During the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR), DWR provided numerous avenues for public education and involvement.

DWR previously studied two similar projects, the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and California WaterFix, and conducted public participation activities as part of those efforts. The Delta Conveyance Project is a new project and is not supplemental to BDCP or California WaterFix. The public involvement activities being conducted for the Delta Conveyance Project benefits from DWR's prior outreach experience but is a stand-alone process.

35.1 Draft EIR Scoping, Scoping Meetings, and Comments

Scoping is the earliest phase of the environmental review process in which the public is invited to participate. Scoping is also the beginning stage of developing an environmental document under CEQA; it is an opportunity for interested parties, agencies, and the public to provide comments about what the lead agency should consider when preparing the Draft EIR. The information gathered during scoping is used to help identify the range of project alternatives to be studied, potentially affected geographical areas, resources that may be affected by the project, and the extent of impact assessments, along with recommended mitigation measures. A complete account of the public scoping activities and an overview of comments received during the public scoping process are provided in Appendix 1A, *July 2020 Delta Conveyance Project Scoping Summary Report and December 2020 Addendum A*. The following briefly summarizes scoping activities conducted by DWR.

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15082, DWR submitted a Notice of Preparation (NOP) to the California Office of Planning and Research via the State Clearinghouse on January 15, 2020 (California Department of Water Resources 2020). The NOP was also provided to federal agencies and other potential responsible and trustee agencies. In addition to the required noticing, DWR provided notice of the scoping period to the public in the following ways: publishing the NOP announcement in seven newspapers of general circulation, posting flyers with the NOP announcement at multiple locations in and around the project area, and directly mailing of a postcard with the NOP announcement to property owners and occupants in or adjacent to the project area. An email notification was sent to 7,320 members of the project mailing list and letters were sent to federal agencies, responsible and trustee agencies, and community groups from the project mailing list. Letters were also mailed to 155 disadvantaged community representatives. Through these notices, the public was also made aware of upcoming scoping meetings.

1 The scoping period for the Delta Conveyance Project Draft EIR began on January 15, 2020, and
 2 closed April 17, 2020. DWR conducted a total of eight public scoping meetings throughout California
 3 from February to March 2020. Table 35-1 presents a list of the scoping meeting locations and
 4 number of registered attendees (registration was not required so this is not a complete list of all
 5 attendees).

6 **Table 35-1. Locations and Dates of Scoping Meetings**

Meeting Locations	Date	Registered Attendees
Sacramento—California Environmental Protection Agency Building	February 3, 2020	106
Los Angeles—Junipero Serra State Building	February 5, 2020	43
Walnut Grove—Jean Harvie Community Center	February 10, 2020	124
San Jose—Santa Clara Valley Water District Board Room	February 12, 2020	25
Stockton—San Joaquin Council of Governments Board Room	February 13, 2020	65
Clarksburg—Clarksburg Middle School Auditorium	February 19, 2020	104
Brentwood—Brentwood Community Center Conference Room	February 20, 2020	110
Redding—Sheraton Redding Hotel	March 2, 2020	157

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 8 To announce the scoping meetings and encourage public participation, advertisements ran in seven
 9 newspapers throughout California and press releases were distributed to media outlets throughout
 10 the state for publication. In addition, multiple email notices to over 500 Delta and Southern
 11 California environmental justice organizations were sent to encourage participation in the scoping
 12 meetings. Informational workshops were held upon request for several environmental justice
 13 organizations in advance of the scoping meetings to provide background information regarding the
 14 Delta Conveyance Project, the environmental review process, and how to provide scoping
 15 comments. The format for the scoping meetings included a brief opening presentation about the
 16 project and the purpose of scoping, which was followed by a brief question and answer period. The
 17 question and answer period focused on providing clarification about the scoping process and the
 18 Draft EIR process overall. For all meetings, the presentation and question and answer portion
 19 accounted for roughly 10–15 minutes of the meeting and the remainder of the time was dedicated to
 20 gathering public comments. Those who wished to make oral comments were asked to fill out a
 21 speaker card. Speakers were called to speak in the order the cards were received. DWR made every
 22 effort to accommodate everyone who wanted to speak at the scoping meetings and reminded
 23 speakers they could submit written comments if they had additional comments they wished to
 24 make. Additionally, meeting attendees who wanted to submit comments could fill out a comment
 25 card and turn it in before leaving the meeting or mail it to DWR before the close of the scoping
 26 period. DWR provided a Spanish language interpreter at each scoping meeting to provide
 27 interpretive services if needed. The interpreters introduced themselves at the start of the meeting to
 28 make meeting attendees aware that Spanish language interpretation was available.

29 **35.1.1 Summary of Scoping Comments Received**

30 During the scoping process, individuals, organizations, and agencies submitted more than 2,000
 31 letters, emails, comment cards, transcripts from public meetings, and form letter signatures.
 32 Between April 18, 2020, and December 14, 2020, DWR received letters from an additional 47
 33 organizations and individuals. A complete account of comments received during the public scoping

1 process is provided in Appendix 1A, *July 2020 Delta Conveyance Project Scoping Summary Report and*
2 *December 2020 Addendum A*. Comments from agency representatives and members of the public
3 included the following topics.

- 4 • Range of Alternatives
- 5 • Biological Resources
- 6 • Climate Change
- 7 • Water Supply, Surface Water Resources, and Water Quality
- 8 • Flood Management
- 9 • Tribal Cultural Resources
- 10 • Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Communities
- 11 • Agricultural Resources
- 12 • Socioeconomics
- 13 • Recreation
- 14 • Aesthetics/Visual Resources
- 15 • Growth
- 16 • Community Issues

17 More detailed information regarding the scoping comments, including the specific comments
18 organized by category and topic, is provided in Appendix 1A, *July 2020 Delta Conveyance Project*
19 *Scoping Summary Report and December 2020 Addendum A*.

20 **35.1.2 Informational Webinars**

21 To provide information to the public in advance of the release of the Public Draft EIR, DWR hosted a
22 series of informational webinars in the summer and fall of 2021 (videos of the webinars can be
23 found on the DWR website: <https://water.ca.gov/deltaconveyance>). Because the Draft EIR is
24 comprehensive in breadth and depth of analysis and contains highly technical information that is of
25 interest to the public, the webinars were held to help provide the public with important background
26 information that would be useful in helping the public navigate the Public Draft EIR. The webinars
27 focused on providing information regarding the technical approach, key tools, assumptions, and
28 methodologies being used to analyze potential environmental impacts that could result from the
29 Delta Conveyance Project. The primary topics addressed in this webinar series were:

- 30 • State Water Project Operations Overview and Delta Conveyance Project Hydrologic Modeling
31 and Assumptions
- 32 • Aquatic Resources Analytical Methods and Assumptions
- 33 • Climate Change Analytical Methods and Assumptions
- 34 • Environmental Justice Survey Results Overview and CEQA Environmental Justice Evaluation
35 Methodology

1 **Table 35-2. Workshop Dates, Topics, and Attendees**

Workshop Topic	Date	Approximate Number of Attendees
Operations of the State Water Project and Delta Conveyance	July 14, 2021	193
Fisheries	August 3, 2021	132
Climate Change	August 25, 2021	148
Environmental Justice	September 16, 2021	128

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3 **35.1.3 Public Review of the Public Draft EIR**

4 The Delta Conveyance Project Public Draft EIR will be available for review and comment for a
5 minimum of 90 days following the publication of the notice of completion through the State
6 Clearinghouse. The purpose of public review of the Public Draft EIR is to receive comments from the
7 public on the document's completeness and adequacy in disclosing potential environmental effects
8 of the project. DWR anticipates hosting public meetings to provide information and receive
9 comments on the Public Draft EIR. In addition to comments received at public meetings, DWR
10 anticipates soliciting comments via mail, email, and online comment form. The Public Draft EIR will
11 be made available for review online.

12 After the close of the public comment period, DWR will review and consider all comments
13 submitted. DWR will make refinements to the Draft EIR in response to agency and public comments
14 and will provide written responses to substantive comments on the contents of the Public Draft EIR.

15 **35.2 Public Outreach Activities**

16 DWR has proactively engaged interested parties, agencies, and individuals interested in the project
17 throughout the CEQA process. Additionally, DWR and California Natural Resources Agency officials
18 encouraged public participation through a variety of approaches to provide an overview of the Delta
19 Conveyance Project and to solicit input during the development of the project.

20 **35.2.1 Project Updates**

21 DWR keeps the public updated about its work through a series of different distribution and media
22 avenues. These sources include blogs, eblasts, flyers, social media posts, videos, and more. The
23 content provided within these sources covers topics such as monthly recaps of work accomplished,
24 upcoming work and associated schedules, highlights of new staff added to the project, and detailed
25 answers to commonly asked questions. Additionally, DWR representatives attend a variety of public
26 meetings to provide regular updates and briefings. Table 35-3 includes a list of organizations the
27 DWR representatives met with starting in 2019.

28 **Table 35-3. Presentations and Briefings 2019–2022**

Agency/Organization	Dates
Agricultural Council of California Legislative Conference	6/2021
Alameda County Water District Board Meeting	11/2019

Agency/Organization	Dates
American Society of Civil Engineers Environmental and Water Resources Institute	11/2019
Association of California Water Agencies Water Management Committee	12/2019, 2/2020
Association of General Contractors	3/2021
Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County	5/2021
Bay Area Council-Water & Climate Resilience Committee Briefing	12/2020
Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District (BIMID)	11/2019
BIA Southern California Water Conference	8/2021
Butte County Board of Supervisors	3/2020
Cal Chamber Water Committee Meeting	9/2020, 10/2020
California Innovation Playbook for Government Change Agents Day of Innovation	6/2021
California State Association of Counties	10/2020
California Water Commission	2/2020, 5/2021
Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB)	2/2020, 5/2020, 6/2021
Central Valley Partnership (CVP) & U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Staff Project Update	11/2020
Congressman Garamendi	3/2020
Courtland Town Association	10/2019, 11/2021
Delta Area Gas Well Engineers	5/2019
Delta Conservancy Board	5/2019, 12/2019, 5/2020, 7/2020, 10/2020, 1/2021, 3/2021, 5/2021, 7/2021, 10/2021, 1/2022, 3/2022
Delta County Supervisors Update	3/2021
Delta Independent Science Board	8/2020, 1/2021
Delta Leadership Program	3/2021
Delta Legacy Communities	9/2019
Delta Protection Advisory Committee	1/2021
Delta Protection Commission	5/2019, 4/2020, 5/2021
Delta Stewardship Council	12/2019, 2/2020, 8/2020, 1/2021, 4/2021, 9/2021, 1/2022
Diablo Water District Board Meeting	2/2020
Dublin Rotary Club	10/2021
East Bay Leadership Council-Water and Environmental Task Force	7/2021
East County Water Management Association (ECWMA)	11/2019
Environmental Coordination Committee (ECC)	8/2019
LA Chamber of Commerce	8/2020
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Bay Delta Committee Regulatory Update	1/2021
Northern California Tribal Chairs Association	7/2020
O&M Dam Safety Engineers	7/2019

Agency/Organization	Dates
Point Pleasant	9/2021
Reclamation District 1002	9/2021
Regional Chamber of Commerce San Gabriel Valley Briefing	3/2021
Sacramento County Environmental Commission	5/2021
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	9/2019
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC)	8/2020
San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority	11/2020
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Board Meeting	10/2021
Society of American Military Engineers (SAME)	8/2020
Society of Military Engineers	4/2021
Southern California Edison Water Conference	11/2021
Southern California Water Coalition Annual Board Meeting	10/2019
Spring Virtual Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Conference and Exhibition	5/2021
Town of Hood	7/2021
Town of Hood Board Meeting	5/2020
Tribal Annual Informational Meeting	9/2019
Tribal Annual Informational Meeting	10/2020
Tribal Annual Informational Meeting	12/2021
Urban Water Institute's Spring Virtual Conference	2/2021
Valley Water Board Meeting	11/2021
Valley Water Storage Exploratory Committee	2/2021
Virtual DC Briefing-Water Advisory Meeting	6/2020
Water Association of Kern County	1/2021
Water Education Committee	7/2019
Water Education Foundation Group Meeting on Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources	8/2020
West Sacramento Mayor	4/2020
Yolo County Supervisor Villegas	6/2020
Zone 7 Water Agency	1/2021

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2 35.2.2 Informational Materials

3 A variety of informational materials have been made available for public view on the DWR website
4 (<https://water.ca.gov/deltaconveyance>). These materials include videos, fact sheets, infographics,
5 slide decks, Q&A documents, and more.

6 Because internet connections in the Delta are often unreliable, DWR also identified over 20 libraries
7 in the five Delta counties to provide the Central, Eastern, and Bethany Reservoir Alignment
8 Mapbook with detailed maps of the three proposed tunnel alignments, plus a binder with printed
9 versions of informational materials (many translated into Spanish and Chinese), and a third binder
10 with all the presentations from the Stakeholder Engagement Committee meetings (which is
11 discussed further in Section 35.2.6, *Design and Engineering Stakeholder Engagement Committee*). All

1 of this material, plus many videos, was also provided on thumb drives. The purpose of providing
2 these materials to local libraries is to ensure accurate information is available and to engage people
3 in the environmental review process, and in other discussions, such as the Community Benefits
4 Program and the Stakeholder Engagement Committee.

5 **35.2.2.1 Deep Dive Videos**

6 Deep Dive Videos are a series of YouTube videos released by DWR to inform the public about
7 project-related topics through interviews with various experts. The videos range from 10 to 20
8 minutes in length and cover different topics, such as Delta Conveyance Project financing, climate
9 change, State Water Project operations, water allocations, seismic risk, the environmental justice
10 community survey, tunnel construction approach, fisheries, and soil investigations in the Delta.

11 **35.2.2.2 Email Notifications**

12 Members of the public can sign up to receive emails from DWR that include updates on the Delta
13 Conveyance Project. These emails, dating back to 2019, can also be viewed on the DWR website.
14 DWR regularly sends updates about the project to nearly 9,000 individuals who have signed up to be
15 on the mailing list.

16 **35.2.2.3 Correspondence and Documents**

17 Members of the public can view public documents generally pertaining to the Delta Conveyance
18 Project, as well as public correspondence documents between DWR, public organizations, elected
19 officials, and interested parties. These documents, dating back to 2019, can be viewed on the DWR
20 website.

21 **35.2.3 Tribal Engagement**

22 DWR is conducting several forms of Tribal engagement and consultation with Tribes for the
23 proposed Delta Conveyance Project. This includes formal consultation about resources with cultural
24 value to Tribes in accordance with Assembly Bill (AB) 52 requirements of CEQA and consultation
25 under DWR's Tribal Engagement Policy with Tribes that are not formally consulting under AB 52.
26 Additionally, DWR hosts annual Tribal informational meetings and participates in other Tribal
27 informational meetings as requested by Tribes. For example, and as invited by Tribal
28 representatives, DWR and the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) have
29 presented project updates and preliminary engineering information from DCA Stakeholder
30 Engagement Committee meetings to the Tribal Engagement Committee, which is convened by the
31 Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians and made up of representatives from Tribes with ancestral
32 ties to the Delta. These efforts have occurred outside of the outreach efforts and are discussed in
33 more detail in Chapter 32, *Tribal Cultural Resources*, and Appendix 32A, *Tribal Consultation Log*. Two
34 Tribal representatives also participate in the Stakeholder Engagement Committee, which is
35 discussed further in Section 35.2.6, *Design and Engineering Stakeholder Engagement Committee*.

36 **35.2.4 Environmental Justice and Disadvantaged Community** 37 **Outreach**

38 DWR is engaging with disadvantaged, historically burdened, underrepresented people of color, and
39 low-income communities of interest that may be disproportionately affected by the proposed Delta

1 Conveyance Project as part of the project’s ongoing environmental analysis. The purpose of this
2 outreach is twofold: determine baseline conditions and potential project-related impacts and
3 benefits for the Delta’s diverse communities and to improve awareness of, and access to, the Draft
4 EIR and related informational resources in ways that will encourage and facilitate public
5 participation.

6 **35.2.4.1 Survey**

7 To help determine baseline conditions and potential project-related impacts and benefits, DWR
8 conducted a survey called *Your Delta, Your Voice*. The survey report includes a complete account of
9 survey results and feedback, as well as the extensive outreach and notification efforts. In May 2021,
10 the survey report was posted on DWR’s website ([https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-
11 Project/Delta-Conveyance/Environmental-Justice](https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Environmental-Justice)) and is also included in this Draft EIR as Appendix
12 29A, *Environmental Justice Community Survey Report*.

13 The survey was available from September 20 to December 11, 2020, in English, Spanish, and
14 Chinese, and was announced and promoted through postcard notices, email, and flyers. The survey
15 was made accessible via desktop and mobile devices as well as hard copy. The purpose of the survey
16 was to learn how the members of disadvantaged Delta communities value the region’s cultural,
17 recreational, and natural resources and to gather input about ways the project may cause impacts to
18 these resources or potentially bring benefits to Delta communities. In addition, the survey provided
19 an opportunity to increase awareness about the project and encourage future engagement among
20 Delta environmental justice and disadvantaged community members. More than 2,117 individuals
21 responded to the survey.

22 The information collected in the survey has been incorporated into Chapter 29, *Environmental
23 Justice*.

24 **35.2.4.2 Outreach and Informational Materials**

25 To help ensure that disadvantaged communities in the Delta are informed about the project and
26 engaged in the public participation process, DWR is conducting outreach and preparing a suite of
27 informational materials. The goal of the outreach and informational materials is to raise awareness
28 and encourage input during the public review period. The outreach and informational resources are
29 guided by lessons learned from the *Your Delta, Your Voice* survey project and from input from local
30 and state-level environmental justice/disadvantaged community outreach experts. DWR is working
31 with in-Delta organizations to expand the reach to local disadvantaged community members
32 through existing known and trusted networks, gathering places, and communication channels.
33 Activities include attending festivals, providing briefings to organizations, placing flyers, distributing
34 informational resources through local organizations, and holding virtual workshops. Informational
35 materials will be translated when feasible and will be written in a culturally appropriate manner.
36 During the public review period, independent facilitators will assist community groups and
37 community members to participate in the public review and input process.

38 **35.2.5 Community Benefits Program Framework Engagement**

39 In April 2021, DWR launched a series of workshops to begin the development of the Community
40 Benefits Program Framework. The Community Benefits Program is being developed in coordination
41 with local communities to identify and implement commitments, if the Delta Conveyance Project is

1 approved, to help protect and enhance the cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural
2 values of the Delta. Community Benefits Program commitments, when they are finalized, will be
3 separate and apart from mitigation measures proposed for the project as part of the environmental
4 review.

5 DWR set forth a collaborative approach to develop the Community Benefits Program Framework to
6 provide the local Delta communities the opportunity to participate in the development of the
7 Community Benefits Program and, if approved, and in continued collaboration during the
8 implementation phase. Local communities are best equipped to tailor benefits to their particular
9 needs. DWR clearly communicated to interested parties that community benefits are not dependent
10 on support for the project.

11 The results of the 2020 *Your Delta, Your Voice* survey informed DWR of the local and disadvantaged
12 communities' values regarding cultural, recreational, and natural resources of the Delta and their
13 attitudes about the project's potential impacts and benefits. DWR then prepared a concept paper to
14 describe the potential for community benefits and thoughts about the process for developing the
15 Community Benefits Program in collaboration with the communities. DWR staff presented the
16 concept to the DCA Stakeholder Engagement Committee on December 9, 2020, and again on April
17 28, 2021. Between February 1 and March 19, 2021, initial input was solicited via targeted
18 interviews with 44 interested parties representing various background and interests in the Delta.

19 Three public workshops were utilized to solicit input for the development of this Community
20 Benefits Program Framework, including program objectives, potential components, and the
21 community engagement process. Workshops were held virtually (with closed captioning online or
22 by phone) and included simultaneous translation in both English and Spanish. All relevant
23 information was posted on the Delta Conveyance Project website in English and Spanish
24 ([https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Community-Benefits-
25 Program](https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/Delta-Conveyance/Community-Benefits-Program)), including registration information, agendas, presentations, public workshop summaries,
26 and a recording of each public workshop. Workshop materials are also included in this Draft EIR as
27 Appendix 3G, Attachment 3G.1, *The Delta Conveyance Project Community Benefits Program*. DWR
28 provided an email address on their website for those who could not attend workshops to provide
29 input by email. Specific workshops for Tribal communities, including invited Tribal leadership,
30 representatives, and members, as well as other non-Tribally affiliated Tribal persons, were held on
31 May 17 and October 25, 2021, and covered all topics from the three public workshops. DWR used
32 feedback from the workshops to revise the objectives, components, and process ideas that had been
33 developed based on prior public engagement efforts. On November 17, 2021, DWR held the Delta
34 Conveyance Project Community Benefits Program Case Study Workshop. The workshop was
35 designed to provide information to community members about community benefits programs. The
36 panelists presented case studies about their experiences with community benefits agreements and
37 information related to community benefits programs in general. Additional information is provided
38 in Appendix 3G, *Community Benefits Program Framework*, and Chapter 34, *Community Benefits
39 Program Analysis*.

1 **Table 35-4. Community Benefits Framework Workshops**

Workshop Topic	Date
What Community Benefits Mean to You	April 14, 2021
Project Ideas	May 6, 2021
Tribal Workshop (all topics)	May 17, 2021
Jobs, Education, Infrastructure and Engagement	May 25, 2021
Second Tribal Workshop	October 25, 2021
Case Study Workshop	November 17, 2021

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3 **35.2.6 Design and Engineering Stakeholder Engagement** 4 **Committee**

5 DCA created the Stakeholder Engagement Committee to provide: (1) a forum for Delta interested
6 parties to provide input and feedback on technical/engineering issues related to the DCA activities,
7 including development of facilities and options for additional study; (2) an opportunity to identify
8 engineering and design considerations that would avoid or minimize effects from construction and
9 facility siting; and (3) a forum for committee members to relay information between respective
10 groups and the committee. The Stakeholder Engagement Committee includes representatives of
11 Sacramento, Yolo, San Joaquin, and Contra Costa Counties; Tribal governments; Delta recreation,
12 public safety, local businesses and community entities; agriculture, Delta history and heritage, fish
13 and wildlife, and Delta water agencies; and ex officio representatives with expertise on public parks,
14 levee engineering, and public safety.

15 The Stakeholder Engagement Committee held 19 meetings from 2019 to 2021 to discuss a variety of
16 engineering topics. Past meeting topics have included an overview of potential conveyance features,
17 siting of key features, and outcomes from efforts to minimize community effects. DCA considered
18 this information in development of facility recommendations to DWR. Additionally, DWR
19 representatives participated in the Stakeholder Engagement Committee meetings and provided
20 presentations and updates on the Delta Conveyance Project CEQA process and other activities, such
21 as the Community Benefits Program Framework, as discussed above. During the conceptual design
22 process and in response to Stakeholder Engagement Committee concerns, DCA considered ways to
23 reduce effects to local communities, at the direction of DWR. The *Efforts to Minimize Delta*
24 *Community Effects* technical memoranda for the eastern and central and Bethany Reservoir
25 alignments summarize the approach and highlight the results of the activities conducted by the DCA
26 to minimize local community effects (Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority 2022a,
27 2022b). The work of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee is outside of DWR's environmental
28 review process under CEQA. Feedback provided by Stakeholder Engagement Committee members
29 should not be construed as approval or agreement with the Delta Conveyance Project or the
30 environmental review process or part of the DWR public outreach process. It is understood that the
31 committee members and individuals that provided comments at the Stakeholder Engagement
32 Committee meetings would provide their comments on the Delta Conveyance Project and CEQA
33 documents directly to DWR under the CEQA public outreach process, and that those comments
34 could be different than discussions that occurred at the committee meetings.