

**From:** [Google Account](#)  
**To:** [Delta Engage](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Meeting on Thursday, January 23, 2025, 9:30 AM  
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*Public comment: Agenda Item 3, Geotechnical drilling*

Dear Delta Stewardship Council,

I urge you to stop DWR from pushing the Delta Conveyance Project forward now or ever. The age of imported water must end. The alternatives are more local water resources and management.

In June 2024, the Superior Court ruled that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) was in violation of the Delta Reform Act by commencing geotechnical work related to the construction of the Delta Conveyance Project and ordered DWR to cease the work. The Delta Reform Act mandates that projects like the Tunnel must align with two primary goals: (1) protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta's ecosystem, and (2) ensuring a more reliable water supply system for California. Rather than attempting to justify how the Tunnel aligns with these objectives (which it does not), DWR submitted limited information concerning a small portion of the geotechnical work for review by the Delta Stewardship Council under the Delta Reform Act. To date, DWR has failed to demonstrate the Tunnel's consistency with the Act, nor have they made any effort to do so now. Instead, they evade scrutiny through arbitrary decisions, seeking special treatment from the Council to push forward with actions already deemed illegal by the courts.

The Delta Stewardship Council, which is now largely comprised of appointees from Governor Newsom, has raised concerns over the past six months regarding their commitment to considering the needs and concerns of Delta communities. There is a fear that the Council may simply rubber stamp the project in an effort to please the Governor, rather than properly administering the Delta Reform Act.

DWR's request for a consistency determination from the Council for test drilling represents an end-run around CEQA and state appellate court rulings concerning drilling and bonds. After spending over \$1 billion over the past 15 years, DWR is eager to push the project forward, disregarding repeated rejections of the tunnel by voters and public opinion.

Sincerely,  
Wesley Chuang  
Concerned Citizen