June 11, 2014

BDCP Comments
Ryan Wulff, National Marine Fisheries Service
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Support BDCP EIR/EIS Alternative #4
Email: BDCP.comments@noaa.gov

Dear Mr. Wulff,

On behalf of the Burbank City Council, we all join to express the City’s support for the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and specifically Alternative #4 as outlined in the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) as the optimal balance between ecological and water supply objectives.

The City Council has closely monitored the BDCP process as the Burbank community depends on the health of the Delta for the 103,000 residents. The Council is encouraged by the release of the public draft of the plan and environmental documents. The outcome of this multi-year effort reflects unprecedented collaboration of public water agencies, state and federal fish and wildlife agencies, business and agricultural stakeholders, local governments and the public.

The draft plan and accompanying environmental documents identify several options for addressing the current challenges with California’s water supply delivery system and the Delta ecosystem. The Burbank City Council supports Alternative #4 as the best alternative to meet the state’s equal goals of water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem restoration. Alternative #4 provides for three new intakes on the Sacramento River in the northern Delta and a 9,000 cubic feet per second tunnel system to convey that water to the existing aqueduct system, coupled with a comprehensive habitat conservation plan for the Delta.

In 2008, the City of Burbank adopted the United Nations Environmental Accords. Burbank was the first city in the nation to voluntarily adopt a 33% renewable portfolio standard and is currently serving 25% of its power from renewable resources. At the end of 2014, Burbank will potentially serve 13 percent of Burbank’s annual water use with recycled water. Burbank also has a goal to conserve 500 acre feet of water annually through consumer incentives and with the assistance of grant funding to support increased water supply reliability, reduce impacts on imported water supplies and surface water ecosystems, and reduce the impact of drought conditions. Burbank also won the coveted 2014 Green California Leadership Award for the BWP EcoCampus. Burbank has the most LEED Platinum Buildings in the state.
Burbank supports the BDCP, and specifically endorses Alternative #4, as adopted in the City’s 2014 Legislative Platform. Alternative #4 is the best workable draft proposal that can lead to a final successful plan of action because it offers the greatest solution to minimize seismic risk to our state’s water supply infrastructure while restoring the Delta’s ecosystem.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dr. David Gordon
Mayor, City of Burbank

c: Senator Diane Feinstein
   Congressman Adam Schiff
   Congressman Brad Sherman
   State Senator Carol Liu
   Assembly Member Mike Gatto
   Burbank City Council
   Burbank Water and Power Board