

June 2025 Vol. 1, No. 4

Welcome to the DCA Digest! Each month, the DCA Digest will provide news and updates on the design, development, and construction of the Delta Conveyance Project.



PRESS RELEASE





PRESS RELEASE

Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Responds to Governor Newsom's Proposal to Streamline Critical Water Infrastructure Project

May 15, 2025

DELTA CONVEYANCE DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIT On May 15th, DCA's Board of Directors held a Special Board Meeting where Members expressed strong support for Governor Gavin Newsom's proposal to fast-track the Delta Conveyance Project. The Governor's proposals are designed to simplify permitting, confirm funding authority, streamline legal processes, and support timely construction. These measures aim to reduce project delays, cut costs, and accelerate the delivery of upgraded infrastructure capable of withstanding climate change, seismic threats, and increasing water demands.



"I support efforts to move this project forward and am proud to stand behind the direction outlined by the Governor. This is about protecting California's water supply, now and into the future."

-Martin Milobar, President, DCA Board of Directors



CHANGE IN POINT OF DIVERSION (CPOD)

- Hearings for the Change in Point of Diversion will continue into June, with additional dates potentially added as needed:
 - June 11, 2025
- The portion of the hearing for presentation of Protestants' cases-in-chief will begin on August 12 and will continue on August 13, 14, 18 & 25, and September 2, 5, 9, 10, 11, 15, 29 & 30, and October 1, 6, 9 & 10, 2025.

☞ VIEW THE FULL HEARING NOTICE





State Water Resources Control Board

FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The State Water Resources Control Board
Administrative Hearings Office is holding
a Public Hearing on the pending Petitions for Change of Water Right
Permits 16478, 16479, 16481, and 16482
(Applications 5630, 14443, 14445A, and 17512, respectively) of the

Department of Water Resources.

The evidentiary portion of the Public Hearing will continue on May 1 (starting at 1:00 p.m.), 2, 5, 14, 15, 21-23, 27 & 28 and June 10 & 11, 2025, and additional dates as necessary.

Policy statements will be heard in person and by Zoom Webinar on May 19, 2025, starting at 9:00 a.m., at Joe Serna Jr. CalEPA Building, Byron Sher Hearing Room, 1001 I Street, Second Floor, Sacramento, California.

The portion of the hearing for presentation of Protestants' cases-in-chief will begin on August 12 and will continue on August 13, 14, 18 & 25, and September 2, 5, 9, 10, 11, 15, 29 & 30, and October 1, 6, 9 & 10, 2025.

All hearing days begin at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise indicated, and will be held by **Zoom Webinar** except the hearing on May 19, which will be conducted in **hybrid format (in person and by Zoom)**. Representatives of parties will receive an individual invitation to join the hearing by e-mail from Zoom.

Interested persons must register in advance to join the hearing on May 19 by Zoom.

Parties or interested members of the public who would like to watch this hearing without participating may do so through the Administrative Hearings Office YouTube channel at: bit.ly/aho-youtube.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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ACWA CONFERENCE

OCA staff attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
Conference in Monterey from May 13–15.
DCA exhibited project materials on the conference floor, offering attendees the opportunity to learn more and ask questions about the project.





THE PRICE OF A DROP

In May, DCA attended The California Water Association's 2025 Spring Policy Symposium themed "The Price of a Drop" in Sacramento. Staff met with industry experts and discussed ongoing strategies to manage the cost of delivering clean and safe water in California.







NEW & UPDATED FACT SHEETS

Finalized and published the new Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency Fact sheet



⋘ Updated the Alameda Water District Fact Sheet







COST CONTAINMENT FACT SHEET

DCA Published a new Cost Containment Fact Sheet highlighting DCA's efforts to control project cost.

✓ VIEW THE FACT SHEET



Building Value

The Delta Conveyance Design & Construction Authority (DCA) is committed to developing the Delta Conveyance Project utilizing strong cost controls and detailed fiscal accountability. The DCA, a Joint Powers Authority, is governed by a seven-member Board comprised of representatives from sixteen of the Public Resource's State Water Project.

Utilizing monthly budget updates, monthly engineering progress reports, and annual audits, the DCA has initiated a program management model that mandates detailed accounting processes and value engineering to methodically identify opportunities for cost and schedule reduction, without compromising quality or functionality, and while building the value of the project.

Cost Containment Measures

The DCA uses rigorous oversight, transparent planning, and ongoing innovation to deliver the Delta Conveyance Project efficiently, keeping costs stable while ensuring value, accuracy, and accountability throughout all project phases.

One Purpose: The DCA is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) established solely to deliver the Delta Conveyance Project, enabling a focused approach on key delivery issues,

Cost Oversight: The DCA Board of Directors, composed of seven representatives from the 16 funding Public Water Agencies (PWAs), provides direct oversight of project spending.

Cost Containment Mechanisms: Committed to accountability, the DCA enforces rigorous, transparent program controls. Since 2019, it has effectively managed resources for environmental review, planning, and permitting—maximizing approved funds without compromising scope or schedule.

Realistic Forecasting and Reviews: At this early stage, the DCA has defined a comprehensive, constructable project, including logistics and utility relocations. This enables detailed environmental analysis and more accurate early-stage



Detailed, Public Project Estimates: In May 2024, the DCA released an updated cost estimate using a detailed methodolog uncommon at the permitting stage. The estimate accounted for labor, materials, and equipment based on industry standards and supplier quotes.

Keeping Costs Flat: The DCA's updated cost estimate is \$20.1B (2023 \$'s), aligning closely with the inflation-adjusted 2020 estimate of \$20.2B. This confirms the reliability of the cost forecasting process.

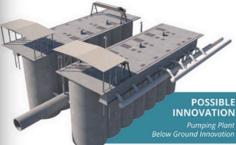
Engineering to Manage Costs: The CEQA-evaluated project configuration is conservative. In parallel, the DCA has explored design and construction refinements, identifying innovations that could yield \$1.25B (6%) in cost savings.

Culture of Improvement: The DCA continues to explore innovations to refine the project, improve accuracy, and control costs. The goal is a well-defined project for PWAs to consider

Balancing Cost and Value: While inflation affects costs, the rising value of water offsets this. Professional oversight and appropriate contingencies remain key to managing risks and avoiding unnecessary cost increases.







Cost Estimate Report (May 2024)

\$15.9 billion (2020 dollars)

Adjusted 2020 Estimate for Inflation: \$20.2 billion (2023 dollars)

2024 Cost Estimate: \$20.1 billion (2023 dollars)

Engineering a Reliable Water Supply for California

resilient, environmentally responsive, and cost-effective Delta Conveyance Project that resolves the long-standing need to assure affordable State Water Project reliability serving future generations of Californians in a way that respects the uniqueness of the Delta as a place and its communities

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THANK YOU!



