

# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

February 3, 2026

Lieutenant General William H. Graham, Jr.  
Chief of Engineers and Commanding General  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
441 G Street NW  
Washington, DC 20314

Dear Lieutenant General Graham,

As members of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Congressional Delegation, we write today to urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), in its forthcoming Record of Decision, to deny the federal permits required for the State of California's proposed Delta Conveyance Project, also known as the Delta Tunnel.

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is the largest freshwater tidal estuary on the West Coast which supports irreplaceable agricultural lands, vital flood control infrastructure, and the livelihoods of millions of Californians. The Delta Tunnel would permanently alter this ecosystem through the construction of massive new intakes on the Sacramento River, extensive tunneling in Delta communities, and over a decade of disruptive construction activity. Even with proposed mitigation, the Final EIS acknowledges that the Delta Tunnel Project would result in significant adverse impacts, including permanent degradation of Delta landscapes, conversion of important agricultural lands, and substantial impacts to aquatic resources and habitats.

Of particular concern are the clear risks to the integrity and reliability of levees and other flood control features that protect Delta communities and the broader Central Valley from catastrophic flooding. Approving permits for a project harming water quality and flood control infrastructure stands in direct opposition to the Corps' statutory obligations. In addition to its environmental and public safety impacts, the Delta Tunnel Project is a major economic burden costing tens of billions of dollars without creating a single new drop of water for Californians. Instead, it would divert scarce resources away from more cost-effective, broadly supported water resilience strategies, such as levee improvements, groundwater recharge, and regional supply investments that enhance reliability without sacrificing the Delta.

It is clear that the Delta Tunnel Project would cause substantial and unavoidable harm to the Delta and its communities. Throughout this process, Delta residents, local governments, tribes,

farmers, and small businesses have consistently raised concerns that their voices have not been meaningfully incorporated into decision-making. For these reasons, we strongly urge the Army Corps of Engineers to deny the permits for the Delta Tunnel Project in its forthcoming Record of Decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Josh Harder  
Member of Congress



John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress