

Stand Up For California!
“Citizens making a difference”

www.standupca.org

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July 5, 2014

Honorable Debra Bowen
California Secretary of State
1500 11th Street
Sacramento, CA. 95814
FAX: (915) 653 1458

**RE: AB 277 - Request to Delay Certification of the North Fork Compact
for Approval by the Secretary of the Interior**

Dear Secretary Bowen,

Stand Up For California! respectfully request that you not submit the ratification language of the North Fork Compact for federal approval until AB 277 is “*in effect*” consistent with state law as required by federal regulations in the compact approval process at 25 CFR 293.7 and 293.8.

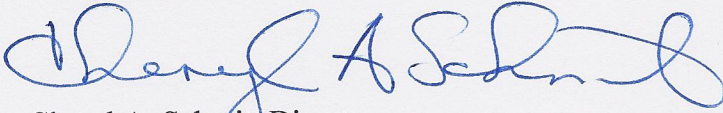
As you know, Government Code Section 12012.25 (f) delegates to the California Secretary of State the duty of forwarding the ratification statute of the North Fork Compact to the Secretary of the Interior. Federal regulations require states to certify “*under the authority of State Law*” that compacts “*have been legally entered into*”. The North Fork Compact is “*not legally entered into*” until Jan. 2014. The purpose of California’s Constitution Article IV Section 8(c)(1) in delaying the effective date of a statute until January of the following year is intended to provide voters the opportunity to referenda undesirable or detrimental legislation.

Moreover, the North Fork compact has created such controversy that a referendum is being discussed in addition to the four plus law suits filed challenging: (1) gubernatorial authority to grant concurrence, (2) required gubernatorial compliance with California Environmental Quality Act, (3) violations of the Administrative Procedures Act, (4) violations of the National Environmental Procedures Act, and (5) violations of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

This compact should never have been submitted to the California State Legislature for ratification until both state and federal judicial review has been completed.

We ask only that you comply with state and federal law requiring **"certification"** that the compact has been **"legally entered into"**, which occurs in January of 2014.

Sincerely,



Cheryl A. Schmit, Director

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