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## **News Release**

### **Latino Water Coalition Member Is Sworn In As Water Commissioner During Fresno Ceremony**

**C**alifornia Latino Water Coalition (CLWC) member Joe Del Bosque was sworn in June 11 as the newest California Water Commission member during a Fresno ceremony sponsored by the California Latino Water Coalition. Del Bosque, a western San Joaquin Valley grower who lives in Los Banos, is a CLWC member.

Mendota Mayor Robert Silva administered the oath of office in the Fresno County Board of Supervisors chambers with many valley elected officials attending along with members of Del Bosque's family. A news conference followed. It focused on on Del Bosque's appointment by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger as well as the upcoming California water bond ballot measure.

Del Bosque, a grower in western Fresno County, has emerged as a leading advocate in support of Latinos and other Californians being harmed economically and socially by California's water crisis and supply curtailments caused by Endangered Species Act compliance and natural drought effects. He has been a consistent voice in support of the comprehensive water program and water bond proposal enacted into law last year by the Legislature and Governor Schwarzenegger. His appointment requires Senate confirmation.

He is one of two CLWC members named to the Water Commission, which will be tasked with reviewing and making decisions on a variety of specific project proposals if the \$11.2 billion water bond measure is approved in November. The other is Daniel Curtin, who heads the Carpenter's Union. The CLWC is a statewide organization of Latino business, social and local government leaders that has focused solely on helping find short- and long-term solutions to the water supply crisis now gripping much of California.

The Commission is to decide on construction of major water projects, including new surface storage, if an \$11.1 billion water bond measure is approved by voters in November.

State Senator Dave Cogdill (R-Modesto), water bond author who is not seeking re-election, was appointed. Others named were Andrew Ball, a San Mateo developer active in sustainable development issues; Joseph Byrne, a Los Angeles lawyer; Kimberley Delfino, a Sacramento environmentalist with Defenders of Wildlife; Luther Hintz, a retired civil engineer from Brownsville; Paul Kelley, a Sonoma County supervisor; and Anthony Saracino, a Sacramento environmentalist with The Nature Conservancy.

Meanwhile, another member of the Latino Water Coalition, Gloria D. Gray of Inglewood, was among those named to the Delta Stewardship Council. She is a Director of the West Basin Municipal Water District and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. She was appointed earlier this year by then-Speaker of the Assembly Karen Bass.