August 10, 2012

Brown-Nichols Science Award Committee

Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Nomination of Dr. Jeffrey Mount

Dear members of the committee:

I am writing to support Dr. Jeffrey Mount’s selection for the Brown-Nichols Science Award. Dr. Mount would be an excellent choice for this award. I have known and worked with Dr. Mount for over 20 years in various capacities and I believe that he is one of the preeminent scientists currently working on San Francisco Estuary and watershed issues.

Dr. Mount is a Professor of Geology at the University of California, Davis, where he holds the Roy Shlemon Chair in Applied Geosciences and previously the President’s Chair in Undergraduate Education. He has many distinguished accomplishments, including being a Founding Director of the UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences, California’s premier water policy and resource management institute. Dr. Mount has served on numerous state and federal boards and commissions that address water resource management issues in the West.

Perhaps most notably with respect to Delta issues, Dr. Mount is the longest-serving member of the Delta Independent Science Board, including serving as its Chair from 2003-2009. This board provides oversight of scientific activities used to inform water supply, flood control and ecosystem management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and its tributaries.

Dr. Mount also has been an integral part of the collaboration between the Public Policy Institute of California and the UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences. This team has published a series of influential syntheses of water resource and ecosystem management issues in California that have helped shape current planning and legislation affecting the Delta.

Dr. Mount has also contributed immensely to the range of scientific research issues involving the Delta, including seminal work on Delta levees.

In addition to his vast experience, Dr. Mount has an unsurpassed ability to clearly communicate highly technical information, is known for his collaborative work ethic, and is completely engaging to work with. I cannot recommend him highly enough for this award.

Sincerely,

*Transmitted via email*

Anthony Saracino

Chair, California Water Commission

Principal, Saracino and Mount, LLC