

October 20, 1995

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Mr. Byron M. Buck  
California Urban Water Agencies  
455 Capitol Mall, #705  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Comments after the October 12 CalFed Bay-Delta Workshop

Dear Mr. Buck:

East Bay Municipal Utility District (District) representatives participated in the subgroup that ranked the two Action Categories: Reduce Entrainment Effects of Diversions, and Managing Demand, at the October 12 Workshop. Little progress was made on rankings for the Managing Demand Action Categories due to different viewpoints about how and when the elements (desalination, water conservation, water conservation, land retirement, and water pricing) are or can be applied. The District has the following comments related to that difficulty.

### 1. Integrating Demand Management and Water Supply Development

The workshop action category entitled Managing Demand contained a range of possible alternatives that suggested a lack of appreciation for the importance of using the consensus building process to effectively integrate demand and supply activities into a coordinated action plan. The District believes the process should encourage an honest competition between demand management and supply development activities to meet the future needs of California with a bias toward those actions which are the least environmentally damaging practicable ones for the future. This workshop exercise did not contribute to this goal by mixing discussion of desalination, water conservation, and water reclamation under demand management.

The goal of this process is to identify actions that address the problems of the Bay Delta. Implicit in this goal must be a recognition that California will continue to rely on the Bay Delta for a large share of its water needs unless and until other alternatives to meet those needs become available and also meet this least environmentally damaging practicable criteria. The workshop process should, in our view, link supply development and demand management together more effectively in the future to encourage this trade-off assessment.

### 2. Demand reduction actions have different definitions and applications

Better definition of the demand reduction action being ranked may help focus the discussion. This applies most to water conservation, water reclamation, and land retirement. The District believes

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the ranking process could be improved if Demand Management elements were better defined and discussed in three distinct areas or times of application. These areas or times of application are:

1. Demand reduction actions used on a short-term basis during an emergency, such as a seasonal draught or a local water supply outage.
2. Demand reduction actions used to replace current supply loss due to known or expected regulatory reallocations.
3. Demand reduction actions used to attenuate future demand due to population and building growth.

### 3. Water pricing and alternative sources

The Managing Demand action category included the elements desalination and water pricing. Desalination is viewed more as a supply of water rather than a demand management tool. Water pricing, either market driven or institutionally imposed, will influence the selection of both supply alternatives and demand management actions. For example, a desalination source will likely be selected if its cost is favorable to the marginal cost of delta export water.

If you have any questions, please call J. Marcell Hall at (510) 287-1105.

Sincerely,



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cc: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director  
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