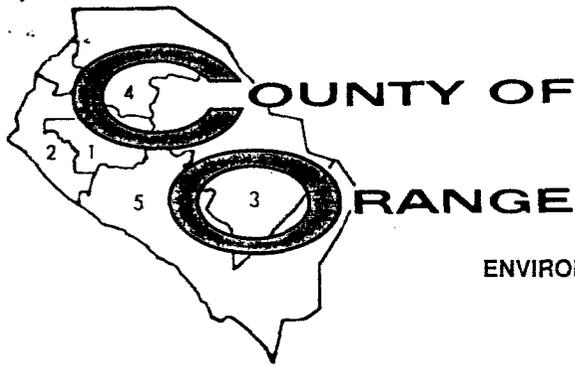


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APR 29 1996

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APR 23 1996

NCL 96-30

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CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: NOI/NOP for the CALFED Bay Delta Program

Dear Sirs:

The above referenced item is a Notice of Intent /Notice of Preparation (NOI/NOP) of a programmatic environmental impact statement/environmental impact report (EIS/EIR) for the CALFED group of state and federal agencies. The proposed program is an unprecedented cooperative effort to forge a lasting solution to restore the health of the Bay-Delta system while addressing the needs of California residents and the economy. The Bay-Delta system consists of the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. The County of Orange has reviewed the NOI/NOP resulting in the following comments:

We suggest that the EIS/EIR address the following water supply issues which are pertinent to the residents of Orange County:

1. The document should clearly explain how the Delta environment can be enhanced while balancing the needs of contracted water deliveries to urban California water users under the State Water Project.
2. The document should evaluate each alternative solution for participation by all (both upstream and downstream) diverters of Delta waters.
3. An analysis comparing continuance of existing levee maintenance, upstream versus downstream storage facilities, and construction of an isolated conveyance facility designed for urban drinking water uses should be included.
4. Local programs which reduce reliance on Delta exports should be addressed.

5. Revised impoundment operations on the San Joaquin River should be evaluated for upstream watershed management to improve water quality and for balancing with Sacramento River flows to equalize flows into the Delta for environmental enhancement.
6. Urban water exports should be evaluated as to water quality to meet public health drinking water requirements as well as for reclamation, recharge and conjunctive use programs.
7. All alternatives should be evaluated for meeting sound principles of demand management for all users reflecting existing and proposed commitments to Best Management Practices for urban, agricultural and environmental activities.
8. Specific timeframes for program implementation should be included.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the NOI/NOP. Please send one complete set of the EIS/EIR to Charlotte Harryman at the above address when they become available. If you have any questions or need to contact us, please call Ms. Harryman at (714) 834-2522.

Very truly yours,



George Britton, Manager
Environmental & Project Planning Division

CH:sf
6041910181404