

**ADRIENNE J. MATHEWS**  
108 HAGGIN STREET  
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93309  
Telephone (805) 334-1323

---

I would like to address the issue of costs. An approximate range of costs has been estimated for each alternative, depending on which components of each alternative are implemented. *The total range of costs for all ten alternatives is about half a billion dollars to about 12 billion dollars.* Alternative I has been estimated to potentially cost *as much as 25 billion dollars.* Just the core actions and essential elements common to *all* of the alternatives are estimated to cost *approximately 2 billion dollars.*

We all know that cost estimates for large-scale programs and facilities construction usually fall far short of actual costs. Therefore, I think we can expect that any of the alternatives chosen will cost *more* than these rough estimates. *Who will pay for these programs?* Water users have been footing the bill not just for water facilities construction and transportation and treatment costs, but also for nearly *all of the environmental mitigation programs currently in place.* In addition, water users have seen their available water supply dwindle due to environmental regulations, while costs have not been reduced at all. *This is not right.*

I would like to see any alternatives that CALFED chooses for EIR consideration contain provisions for short-term, pay-as-you-go programs. In that way, the benefits of a program could be easily assessed, making it simpler to decide which are working and which aren't. These short-term programs would be more affordable. While some of the more expensive, long-term options will probably need to be part of the Delta solution, they shouldn't be considered the *only* option.

The bottom line is that *Californians need more water.* The population of California continues to rise, and so will the need for not just their drinking water, but to grow their food and fiber. Everyone's livelihood depends on an abundant, reliable supply of water. We need to find an affordable way to fix the Delta so that it can supply our needs while improving its ecosystem.