



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

*File
- Purpose Need*

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

(916) 657-2666
FAX **(916) 654-9780**

Date: February 16, 1996

To: CALFED Bay-Delta Program NEPA/CEQA Coordination Team

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program *North
Burbank
for*

Subject: CALFED Bay-Delta Program Revised Draft Purpose and Need Statement and Draft Notice of Intent/Notice of Preparation

The enclosed drafts are provided for your review and comment. Copies of both drafts were provided to the CALFED Policy Group and they will be discussed at the February 21, 1996 CALFED meeting. Please provide your comments by February 27, 1996. If you have questions, please give me a call at (916) 657-2666.

We received varying input on the initial draft Purpose and Need statement. Comments included:

- it's O.K. as is;
- make numerous suggested wording changes to the Purpose and Need statements;
- Purpose should be described as finding solutions to all Delta issues;
- Purpose and Need statements should reflect the synergy between issues; and
- be more complete in describing the complexity of issues and reasons for undertaking the program.

A small ad-hoc group of CALFED staff joined with us to revise the statement. The following is our attempt to incorporate the suggested changes:

- the **Introduction** section provides a more extensive discussion of the size and complexity of the Bay-Delta System, how and why the Bay-Delta Program (Program) came about and how the planning alternatives were developed;
- the **Purpose** statement has been reduced considerably. The changes focus on the synergy among the purposes of the Program and the desire to find balanced solutions to the identified issues;
- the **Need** statements are more comprehensive than those seen previously and they identify the synergy among and complexity of the problems in the Bay-Delta System; and
- where appropriate, the description of the Purpose and Need statement reflect suggested wording changes received on the initial draft.

The draft Purpose and Need statement will be presented to the public during Scoping for the NEPA/CEQA Coordination Team EIS/EIR and revised in April 1996. Following revision it will be recirculated to CALFED agencies for a final review.

This is the first time most of you have seen the Notice of Intent/Notice of Preparation (NOI/NOP). The NOI/NOP follows the Federal Register's standard format. It will be submitted to the Federal Register around March 1, 1996 and we expect it will be published about March 12, 1996. On the day it is published, the NOI/NOP will be distributed to the public and the media.

Enclosures

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service