



SHASTA COUNTY

WATER AGENCY

COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
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APR 10 1998

WILLIAM E. LYMAN
CHIEF ENGINEER

April 3, 1998

Mr. Lester A. Snow
Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Programmatic EIS/EIR Review Period Extension

Dear Mr. Snow:

Shasta County finds that this document is, in effect, a new California Water Plan. It touches on virtually every water issue in California and, in many cases, proposes solutions. As such, it deserves a proper public airing. The existing 75-day public review period for the subject document, concluding on June 1, 1998, is insufficient for the review of such a massive document. We respectfully request that it be extended by an additional 120 days, to a final closing date of September 28, 1998.

Shasta County has actively participated in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program since its inception. We are familiar with the problems that gave rise to the program, the programs' goals, and the various proposals that have been advanced to achieve those goals. As a result, it appears that we are familiar with many of the elements of this document. However, an analysis of this document is still a massive task.

Shasta County received the Programmatic EIS/EIR on March 18, 1998 and started reading. Many of the local cities and water purveyors in the region have also begun their own reviews of the main elements. However, we will probably be the only party in Shasta County to tackle the entire document, including the technical appendices. Due to the inter-relationships between the various elements, it is not feasible to break down the document into discrete elements for analysis. Staff will have to analyze the entire document sequentially. We intend to then act as a resource for more generalized reviews by allied parties. This will, of course, necessitate that we have time for coordination after our analysis has been completed. It is not feasible to complete all of this work within 75 calendar days.

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The people of Shasta County need to be involved at this point, a key step in a very sensitive project. Additional time is necessary to accomplish this. CALFED staff has produced a document the size of which is appropriate to the task, reflecting the enormous size and complexity of the proposed project. The public review period should be commensurate with this scope.

If you have any questions, please contact my staff, Bill Lyman, Chief Engineer of the Shasta County Water Agency, at (530)225-5661.

Very truly yours,

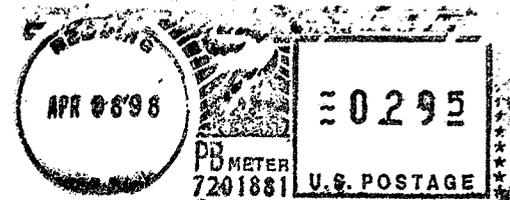


Patricia A. Clarke, Chairman
Shasta County Water Agency
Board of Directors

PAC/PJM/lr

CAROLYN TAYLOR
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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Comment

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