

00065

April 30, 1998

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CalFed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

APR 30 1998

Dear Mr. Snow:

I am writing to request that CalFed extend the comment period for the Draft Programmatic EIR/EIS published March 1998. I just recently received my copies, courtesy of your staff, and find that the breadth and complexity of the issues being addressed in CalFed's process requires much more serious consideration than allowed by the 75 day comment period. This was the first point of my testimony last Tuesday night at the Burbank public hearing.

The water future of California is at stake. We all need a plan, but it is essential to do it right this time. While I may not agree entirely with the current options, I believe it is essential that all stakeholders have adequate opportunity to read and review, ask appropriate questions and ultimately understand what the final chosen alternative means. Billions of tax dollars will be spent based on the outcome; the public deserves to achieve the proposed solution. I am very uneasy about CalFed's reliance (Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR, p.6.1-1) on a computer model that has yet to be validated.

I believe that the current comment period is unrealistic. Sticking to a legal definition for the review period will ultimately destroy any chance of a compromise on a final solution to the vexing water problems of this state. Therefore, I request that you extend the timeline for the entire CalFed process to accommodate a more realistic public review and comment period.

Please turn off this clock as soon as possible. Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

(Original Faxed to 916-654-9780)

Irwin Haydock, Ph.D.
11570 Aquamarine Circle
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

cc: Felicia Marcus, RA
marcus.felicia@epamail.epa.gov

Dorothy Green
dorgreeb@aol.com