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Mr. Breitenbach

I felt compelled as a concerned citizen to contact you regarding the CalFed plans to manage water in the San Francisco/Bay-Delta system from where San Diegans draw water daily.

More and more people are realizing that we live in a Global Ecosystem. Hopefully we will someday acquire the environmental wisdom along with our worldly wisdom and live more in harmony with this Earth.

Until then, I would encourage planners to consider:

Environmental Impacts: How does drawing water from the San Francisco/Bay-Delta system and piping it to San Diego affect the environment and ecological balance between the San Francisco/Bay-Delta and San Diego.

Continued Education of the Public of its responsibility.

Conservation: Continue to support the use of low-flow showerheads, toilets, encouraging landscaping that fits with a semi-arid climate, and permaculture practices that help the land to hold on to the moisture it receives, and residential water capturing facilities for retaining the rain water that usually runs out to the sea. All of these will drive down the amount of water imported and, consequently, the amount of waste water treated at the other end.

Reclamation. San Diego water districts are already experimenting with reclaiming waste water for landscaping and recreational uses.

Initiate Environmental Vision.

Advocate sustainable growth. Quality of life suffers with indiscriminate growth. Water availability should be a factor in land use planning, and water boards should have the good sense to consider growth-oriented forecasts.

Much has been said about our shrinking supply of freshwater. In reality, the world's potential supply of freshwater has not decreased, but the pollution to which it is being subjected and the demands which are placed on this supply have indeed increased, complicated by irregular rainfall patterns.

Vulnerability

One fright-full concern of mine concerns the vulnerability of the current San Francisco/Bay-Delta system to either accidental or purposeful destruction of its pipelines. Considerable problems would

result if a major break in the flow were to occur. One way to localize the managerial responsibilities of water supply would be through desalination.

Desalination -

It might be argued that Desalination is too expensive. When does the cost of transporting water and its effect on the ecology offset the cost of desalination?

The exponentially growing global population has led to a growing number of scientists, engineers, and experts making research advances and discovering new processes, that have resulted in a massive flood of information, that can be found on the Internet at

<http://www.desline.com/home.htm>

The Desalination Directory is an invaluable electronic network to academic, government and private institutions, organizations, companies and individuals concerned with desalination and water reuse. It covers the entire water desalination and purification field all over the world.

<http://www.desline.com/associat.htm>

Desalination is an The International Journal on the Science and Technology of Desalting and Water Purification

AIMS AND SCOPE

This international journal is dedicated to keeping pace with developments in the water desalting and purification field in all its aspects: theoretical and applied research, technological and industrial development, and the experience of operators and users.

Desalination welcomes original research papers and state-of-the-art reviews on all aspects of the field and encourages papers on new and advanced technologies for water treatment and for the development of integrated systems. Desalination covers all desalting fields - distillation, membranes, reverse osmosis, electrodialysis, ion exchange, freezing and water purification - and aims to provide a forum for any innovative concept or practice.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration,

Bill Clay
6/1/98