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June 17, 1998

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Mr. Rick Breitenbach  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

**Subject: MWDOC Board of Directors' Comments on CALFED Draft EIS/EIR**

The Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) is a wholesale water import agency and member of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. MWDOC is committed to providing a reliable, high quality import water source at an affordable cost for efficient use in Orange County now, and into the future. This will become an increasingly difficult challenge as growth strains existing supplies and competition restrains opportunities for augmenting future supplies.

The CALFED Process for selecting a Bay-Delta solution is critical to Orange County's ability to meet its future water needs. As such, we applaud CALFED for the decision to not select a preferred alternative in the first draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) until a financing package and an assurances package are developed which can be supported by all stakeholders.

In addition to acceptable financing and assurances packages, the MWDOC Board of Directors will support a CALFED solution that includes:

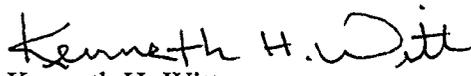
- ✓ A program to address the fundamental structural and regulatory deficiencies within the Bay-Delta which results in water supply certainty for the long-term.
- ✓ A higher quality source water to protect public health through drinking water quality which is appropriately balanced with the ongoing investments in affordable and feasible treatment technologies being employed in Southern California.
- ✓ A cost-effective solution with equitable allocation of costs commensurate with benefits received (beneficiaries pay principal) and funding mechanisms that secure implementation.

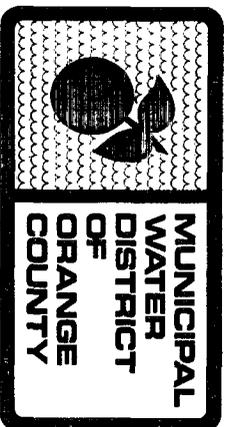
Mr. Rick Breitenbach  
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- ✓ An urban water use efficiency program with compliance tied to implementation of cost-effective best management practices, driven by local cost assumptions, and a certification process directed by the California Urban Water Conservation Council guidelines, rather than compliance based on water savings estimates. Agricultural and environmental programs held to the same type of water use efficiency standards as those for urban water users.
- ✓ A water transfers program which addresses physical constraints and regulatory roadblocks that impede development of a free market with third-party impacts mitigated to the point of delivery.
- ✓ An affordable environmental restoration program directed by a single entity held accountable for measured results and fiscal responsibility.

A cost-effective solution that encompasses environmental restoration, regulatory certainty, increased water quality, water use efficiency and a workable water transfers market will provide Orange County water supply reliability from the Bay-Delta well into the next century. With hopes of such an outcome, we continue our support of the CALFED Process and look forward to working with CALFED and stakeholders to develop an acceptable solution for the long-term.

Sincerely,

  
Kenneth H. Witt  
President



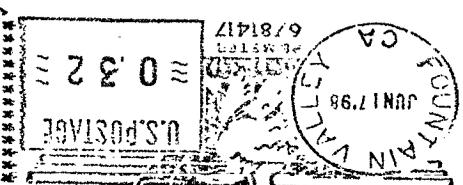
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DEPARTMENT OF  
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