



CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

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Chief of Watermaster Services

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June 11, 1998

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

Dear Mr. Snow:

Enclosed you will find a copy of Chino Basin Watermaster Resolution 98-10 supporting adoption and implementation of Alternative 3 presented in the CALFED Bay-Delta Programmatic EIS/EIR. WATERMASTER SUPPORTS ALTERNATIVE 3 because it is the alternative that provides the most assurances that the program objectives will be met.

We are impressed with the efforts and successes of the CALFED Bay-Delta process to date, and desire to see it come to successful and meaningful resolution as planned. To that end, we incorporate the specific comments of the Association of Groundwater Agencies (AGWA), the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the Southern California Water Committee, and the Agricultural and Urban Water Caucuses Policy Group in this letter by reference.

Chino Basin Watermaster represents Agricultural, Industrial and Municipal interests in the largest groundwater basin in Southern California. We consider that CALFED must remain on schedule and **select a preferred alternative that includes an enforceable project list** by the end of 1998. This is mandatory and in the best interest of the State of California. Additionally, it is crucial that **all project features** for a particular implementation phase are developed **on parallel tracks by linking them together** to assure the project's ability to demonstrate how each of the program objectives can be met.

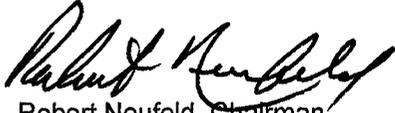
One of the crucial benefits that Alternative 3 will assure is enhanced **water quality and salinity management**. Here in the Chino Basin, as in many other areas of California, good water quality and the ability to maintain that water quality is dependent on the quality of source water used. Alternative 3 will assure that good quality water will be able to be stored and used to replenish the Chino Basin during times of surplus because it will reduce the average salinity of the State Water Project water by about 100 mg/l. No other alternative can provide this assurance and the value of this type of salinity reduction is immeasurable. A reduction of this type will probably save billions of dollars in future water costs because of the reuse it will allow and the treatment costs it will save.

Alternative 3 will also **assure that good quality surplus water will be able to be conjunctively used in the Chino Basin**. This means that during times of drought, the stored water will be available to reduce the demands on the Delta to help preserve water quality, water quantity and the ecosystem there. Alternative 3 will also facilitate the development of additional local supplies of water by improving the quality of recycled water, and by providing water to improve the quality of local groundwater. This type of short-term new storage and yield is critical to the improvement of California's water supply situation, both now and in the future.

Watermaster suggests that because the Southern California region leads the nation and possibly the world in recycling water, any criteria established regarding reclamation and/or conservation must reflect the Integrated Resources Plans of our region. They cannot be more restrictive because we know what is achievable and have made that demonstration.

In closing, we would like to stress that widespread support for the CALFED process was demonstrated by the passage of Proposition 204. The public demonstrated its desires very admirably, and we insist on behalf of our public that CALFED be accountable and do what is required under Proposition 204. To do this, CALFED must select and implement the alternative that most assures the program objectives will be met in the best interest of all people of the State, Alternative 3.

Sincerely,



Robert Neufeld, Chairman
Chino Basin Watermaster

Enclosure
(06118calfed.ltr)