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SAN DIEGUITO WATER DISTRICT

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JUN 29 1998



June 24, 1998

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

Re: SDWD Board Comments on Bay-Delta Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of San Dieguito Water District, I would like thank the CalFed staff for all the time and hard work they have put into finding solutions to critical Bay-Delta problems. The District supports the consensus-based approach utilized in these efforts to find the optimum solution.

In analyzing the three alternative solutions laid out in the Draft EIS/EIR, the District Board believes that Alternative 3 best meets the program's goals which include ecosystem restoration, improved water quality and increased water supply reliability.

No matter what alternative is finally selected, we would like to stress certain objectives that we feel must be met. To begin with, costs to fix the Bay-Delta need to be allocated in a fair and equitable manner. Our customers should not be expected to pay for benefits that other areas of California realize from the solution. We are willing to pay our share of the CalFed solution provided we receive assurances that we will receive a dependable supply of water. Also, improvements made to increase water supply reliability need to be cost effective when compared to other water supply development options.

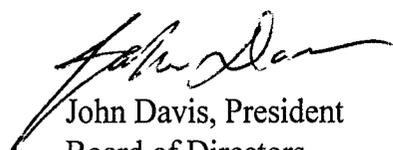
Water reclamation has become an integral part of water use efficiency in San Diego County. The District is currently preparing to serve reclaimed water within two years. It is anticipated that this project will reduce the consumption of precious potable water by approximately ten percent. Obviously, with a large investment of money spent upgrading a wastewater treatment plant and installing new pipelines, the District wishes to have the ability to maximize reclaimed water use. Unfortunately, we will not be able to do so at this time since nearly all water imported comes from the Colorado River, which is high in

total dissolved solids (TDS). A solution that increases the water supply of low-TDS Bay-Delta water can help us to achieve our goal of maximizing reclaimed water use.

Finally, the Board supports CalFed efforts to improve water use efficiency. San Diego County water agencies have used their existing water supply efficiently and effectively. Through the Ultra-Low-Flush Toilet Voucher Program, Residential Survey Program, Large Turf Audit Program, low-flow showerhead giveaway, school education programs, public information programs and inclining block rate structure, San Diego County has led the way in conservation practices and will continue to do so in the future.

I would like to thank you for your time and for giving us the opportunity to comment on the solutions proposed by the CalFed team. We are all aware of the importance of the decisions that are to be made as we work toward finding solutions that will benefit all Californians.

Sincerely,



John Davis, President
Board of Directors



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