

COMMUNITY LEGAL INFORMATION

West Second and Cherry Streets • Chico, CA 95929 •

JUL 01 1998

This document
was faxed

June 30 1998

@
TO 12 PM

654-9780

County Jail
Law Project

June 26, 1998

Chico Consumer
Protection

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

Detention Awareness
Program

Re: Comments in response to the CAL-FED Bay-E
EIS/EIR (PEIS).

Disabled
and the Law

Dear Mr. Snow,

Environmental
Advocates

The following are general comments in response to the CALFED Draft
Programmatic EIS/EIR (PEIS). Our comments are concerned with two primary
areas: the role of watershed management planning, and the development of new
storage facilities.

Coordinated Watershed Management

Family Law

We encourage an elevated role for watershed and Coordinated Resource
Management groups, and planning efforts managed on regional scale are the
preferred method. My research indicates that coordinating planning efforts on a
regional scale where the regions are delineated by physiographic boundaries, such
as watersheds, are increasingly seen as one of the most efficient and effective in
meeting the objective of sound planning for large areas. On the other hand,
planning policy based on local political boundaries lead to more fragmentation,
mismatched planning efforts, and lack of consistent vision. The success of
community based watershed planning and CRM's efforts are based on the
application of good science. The watershed groups and conservancies have made
substantial progress toward meeting the challenges of planning and implementing
sound methods towards the restoration of the health of many ecosystems and
habitats throughout the state. The task of making science relevant and accessible
to the community is met by the watershed groups through many successful
education campaigns and the development of public and private partnerships with
community "stakeholders." The existing and future watershed groups and CRMs
should be utilized to their fullest potential and should assume a major role in
implementing the coordinated watershed management program. In addition, the
formation of watershed groups and CRMs should be encouraged to ensure citizen
participation at all levels of the planning and implementation process. The
"watershed" planning approach has worked in numerous situations throughout the

Housing Law

Penal Law

Student
Law Services

Traffic Law

Women's Law

Worker's Rights
Program

COMMUNITY LEGAL INFORMATION CENTER

West Second and Cherry Streets • Chico, CA 95929 • (916) 898-4354

JUL 01 1998

County Jail
Law Project

June 26, 1998

Chico Consumer
Protection

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

Detention Awareness
Program

Re: Comments in response to the CAL-FED Bay-Delta Draft Programmatic
EIS/EIR (PEIS).

Disabled
and the Law

Dear Mr. Snow,

Environmental
Advocates

The following are general comments in response to the CALFED Draft
Programmatic EIS/EIR (PEIS). Our comments are concerned with two primary
areas: the role of watershed management planning, and the development of new
storage facilities.

Coordinated Watershed Management

Family Law

We encourage an elevated role for watershed and Coordinated Resource
Management groups, and planning efforts managed on regional scale are the
preferred method. My research indicates that coordinating planning efforts on a
regional scale where the regions are delineated by physiographic boundaries, such
as watersheds, are increasingly seen as one of the most efficient and effective in
meeting the objective of sound planning for large areas. On the other hand,
planning policy based on local political boundaries lead to more fragmentation,
mismatched planning efforts, and lack of consistent vision. The success of
community based watershed planning and CRM's efforts are based on the
application of good science. The watershed groups and conservancies have made
substantial progress toward meeting the challenges of planning and implementing
sound methods towards the restoration of the health of many ecosystems and
habitats throughout the state. The task of making science relevant and accessible
to the community is met by the watershed groups through many successful
education campaigns and the development of public and private partnerships with
community "stakeholders." The existing and future watershed groups and CRMs
should be utilized to their fullest potential and should assume a major role in
implementing the coordinated watershed management program. In addition, the
formation of watershed groups and CRMs should be encouraged to ensure citizen
participation at all levels of the planning and implementation process. The
"watershed" planning approach has worked in numerous situations throughout the

Housing Law

Penal Law

Student
Law Services

Traffic Law

Women's Law

Worker's Rights
Program

nation, and we should take full advantage the collective experiences of these groups.

In addition to implementing the coordinated watershed planning and CRM process effectively, *all* watersheds in California should be considered for study and restoration. This would include many watersheds in areas that are outside of the Sacramento and San Joaquin River systems such as watersheds in Southern California, and others such as the Trinity River. Many of the regions that have experienced a high rate of growth and a high demand for water contain watersheds in varying stages of degradation. We feel that more effort should be given improving critical water resources in those watersheds thus lessening the demand for Northern California water. We feel that if assessment and restoration programs were implemented in many of the sensitive areas of the southland, such as riparian zones, groundwater recharge, and meadow restoration, the southern regions of the state may experience an increased availability of water resources. In the northern region of the state we have to consider some restoration of the Trinity River. Much of the Trinity River water is diverted to the Central Valley Project and can be considered a tributary to the Sacramento River system.

Storage

The expansion of existing storage and development of new storage is discouraged. We have not begun to efficiently use what water is already shipped south, and should discourage providing more. If we assess all watersheds, restore mountain meadow environments, and conserve what water is already diverted, much of the demand for water may be met and future demand may be reduced. We must take a cautious approach to plans for constructing additional storage facilities. Conservation and use efficiency measures should be implemented before the source regions should commit more resources in response to projected growth.

There is no more room for water storage and conveyance systems on the Northern California landscape. The high opportunity costs of many aquatic and terrestrial environments are not satisfactorily addressed in the document.

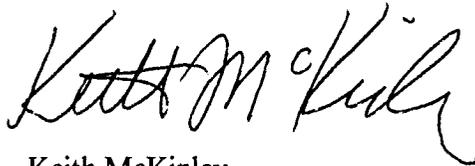
The expected water needs for the state are based on the current trends in population and urban development in the State of California. These trends are the product of *unchecked* growth and development that occurred in the state since the end of W.W.II. The expansion of the storage systems, developing new storage, and expandable conveyance systems will result in enabling more undesirable growth. The pressure on the environment and water resources of the Sacramento River System will negatively impact the entire region, and this is not adequately addressed by the alternatives presented.

A project such as CALFED should include some investigation of a state-wide or regional growth management program. Gaining control of the rapid growth and development, would substantially contribute to effort to reduce the

demand for water thus lessening the adverse impact on California environments and communities.

Thank You for the opportunity to comment on this project.

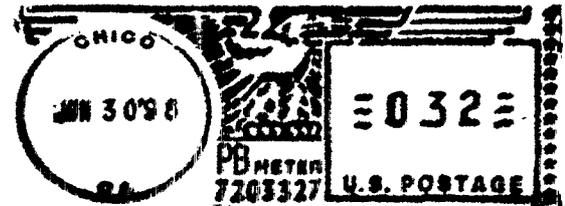
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith McKinley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Keith" and last name "McKinley" clearly distinguishable.

Keith McKinley
Environmental Advocates
Community Legal Information Center

Community Legal Information Center
California State University, Chico
Chico, CA 95929

JUL 01 1998



CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 NINTH ST. Suite 1155
Sacramento, Ca. 95814
ATTN: Rick Breitenbach

95 JUL 1 AM 1998
INVESTMENT
SOURCES

95814/3303



C-012513

C-012513