

June 28, 1998

Rick Breitenbach
CALFED Bay/Delta Program
1416 9th Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

01406
JUN 30 1998

RE: CALFED Bay/Delta Program Programmatic EIS/EIR

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

Fifty percent of our nation's fruits, vegetables, and nuts are grown on just three percent of our nation's soil that is in California. It is truly impossible to mitigate for prime soils. Yet, every day, prime soils are not only being developed, they are increasingly being designated to be used for species habitat, or set aside for open space conservation.

CALFED came to be, as I understand it, because, during the drought of 1987-92, the State water agencies and the Federal regulations were at serious odds because the State was unable to comply with the mandates of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as set forth for the pumps in the Delta. In effect, the Federal government was dictating State water policy. So, instead of agencies suing each other, all of the involved agencies decided on a plan of "consensus" to decide water policy. Hence, the Delta Accord, and ultimately, CalFed.

If the State water agencies were totally incapable of complying with the ESA mandates set down, how is it that they can create themselves to become the ones to redirect the impacts that they, themselves, could not assume? Isn't it undeniably unjust that all of those agencies can put those compliance guidelines over onto the private sector shoulders of agricultural landowners with the expectation that those individuals be made to comply with what all of the agencies could not?

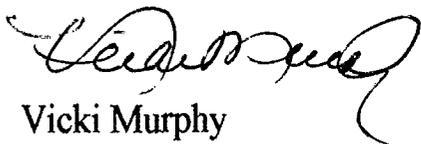
The agricultural landowners are receiving all of the redirected impacts of providing water to this state's growing population. Agricultural land is to be fallowed and to receive severe reductions in water deliveries. Landowners are to become the species babysitters for the nation--in perpetuity--for a price that is quite a bargain in comparison to the money paid for mitigation lands by developers.

CALFED makes no real provisions for new or additional storage. Therefore, any increase in water demand will just be taken from production agriculture, and supplied to higher paying urban consumers so as to provide immediate and improved revenue returns.

If CALFED's redirected impacts result in California landowners, and agri-businesses assuming the majority of responsibility for species and their habitat, in perpetuity, then CALFED language stating that the mitigated land designated to become new development should then define, in perpetuity, the sphere of influence for each California city.

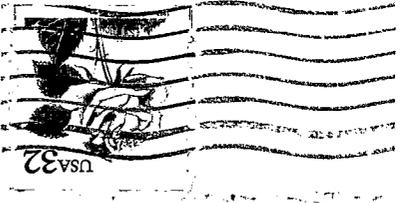
CALFED has been telling rural California that there is not going to be enough water for them anymore, and to cut production. Why hasn't CALFED told the cities just how much water will be provided to them? The cities have no growth restrictions under CALFED. The word "vision" is used throughout the ERPP draft. CALFED's "vision" for agriculture is a disaster for the presently safe, abundant, and affordable food and fiber that California farmers and ranchers presently provide the nation and the world. Not only is CALFED advocating severely restricting agricultural water use, it is imposing widespread watershed land use constraints, while at the same time providing seemingly endless water supplies for cities to continue to expand and encroach into ag production areas.

Sincerely,



Vicki Murphy
P.O. Box 97
Brooks, CA 95606
(530)796-3752

C-013175



DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES
SACRAMENTO

98 JUN 30 AM 11:02



*Frank Breitmaier
CARTER Bay/Water Program
1416 9th Street Suite 1155
Sacramento CA 95814*

JUN 30 1998

*Fa Box 97
Buck, CA 95607*

C-013175