

JUL 01 1998

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

June 30, 1998

Subject: Phase II Interim Report and  
Programmatic EIR-EIS

Dear Mr. Snow;

Following are my comments on the subject reports:

1. CALFED is to be commended for its initial activities and plans for the Ecosystem Restoration program. This effort should be continued and enhanced in recognition of the fact that we have destroyed over ninety percent of our wetlands and riparian habitat.
2. The Water Use Efficiency Component of the report addresses but does not appear to recognize the full potential of water conservation as the most economical and environmentally responsible solution to our water resources problems. More emphasis should be given the following:
  - Recycling, including grey water and tailwater return systems.
  - Agricultural-urban water transfers in conjunction with changes in crop patterns and planned land fallowing.
  - Permanent land retirement as is being planned in response to the requirements of the CVPIA. Particular consideration should be given the marginal and apparently subsidized lands south of the Delta.
  - Economic incentives such as used for the successful energy conservation programs implemented in our urban areas.
3. Proper watershed management practices that can reduce flood flows, increase useable water yields and enhance water quality. These include proper vegetation management, and retention and recharge areas.

4. Section 10 of the report appears to understate the growth inducing impacts of a program of such a large magnitude.
5. The potential growth inducing impacts of the proposed flood control component of the program in southern Sacramento County and the Delta should be recognized and assessed in more depth.
6. With properly implemented conservation measures additional surface storage would not appear justified. The costs of the measures contained in Appendix 5 of the EIR-EIS are comparable to estimated reservoir costs on an acre foot yield basis. If any storage is necessary, priority should be given the more environmentally acceptable groundwater storage.
7. In recognition of the reduced water demands that would be achieved by an adequate conservation program, a limited impact conveyance alternative should be defined such as a cut-back version of Alternative 1.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Rick Bettis  
1716 P Street No. 9  
Sacramento, CA. 95814

RE. Progmt EIR-EIS

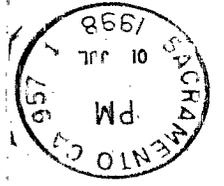
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