



Solano County Farm Bureau

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June 29, 1998

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

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

Please accept our written comments on the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Solano County Farm Bureau supports the development of additional water storage, especially in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley, adjacent to the Delta. We believe that long term water demands will not be met without construction of new surface storage.

We support urban water conservation.

We oppose the widespread conversion of agricultural land and its water resources to other areas. Consideration must be given to its corresponding economic impacts on local populations, businesses, counties, and maintenance and irrigation districts.

We support improvements made to conveyance systems, as identified in Alternatives 2 & 3, and these improvements should be linked to additional storage.

We support maintaining land in private ownership and in feasible agricultural production. Incentives should be made to landowners to provide habitat, maintain ecologically sound production practices, provide storage or drainage where appropriate, and any other of CALFED's program objectives.

Assurances made to the agricultural community to continue feasible production must be solid, tangible, and well defined. Assurances must be made which strengthen existing water rights, maintain area of origin rights, and strengthen property rights. Well defined boundaries between farmland and habitat restoration areas must be established.

We support voluntary implementation of efficient water management practices, with assistance and funding made available. We oppose mandatory requirements for agricultural water use efficiency, also CALFED's proposal to establish target values for certain ag compounds used in crop production.

We believe that CALFED must recognize that any water transfers should be voluntary, with improvements to storage and conveyance capacity made beforehand. Any water transfers should not adversely affect existing water rights.

We support a thorough cost analysis study with an emphasis on economic impacts. An economic benefit must be shown before implementation of CALFED programs.

In closing we would like to thank you in advance for considering our suggestions and comments. We look forward to your response to our comments and concerns.

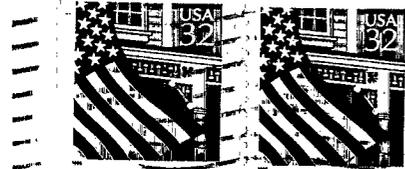
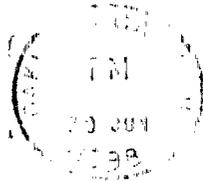
Sincerely,



Paul Lum
Water Chairman
Solano County Farm Bureau



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POST OFFICE
 WATER RESOURCES
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