

**DUBLIN
SAN RAMON
SERVICES
DISTRICT**



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July 1, 1998

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

Subject: Comments on the Draft Programmatic EIR/EIS for CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

Dublin San Ramon Services District (District) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the subject draft programmatic EIR/EIS for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. The District provides potable and recycled water service to the City of Dublin in Alameda County. The District currently receives its wholesale water supply from Zone 7 of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (Zone 7) but is also empowered to independently utilize local groundwater or other water supply sources.

The District is strongly committed to water conservation and recycling measures in its overall water supply program. Water conservation efforts, including commitment to the Best Management Practices for Urban Water Conservation, have included the following:

- Conducting school education and awareness programs
- Participation with Zone 7 in incentive programs for ultra low-flow toilet retrofits
- Advocacy of drought tolerant landscaping and water conserving irrigation practices
- Providing residential water use monitoring
- Performing bi-annual system water auditing to determine need for leak detection/reduction
- Providing maximum beneficial reuse of recycled water from the District's Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant

The District has a long standing commitment to water recycling efforts as demonstrated by its leadership and participation in several landmark regional programs. The District is a partner with East Bay Municipal Utility District in the DSRSD-EBMUD Recycled Water Authority, a Joint Powers Authority that is planning and constructing a recycled water landscape irrigation project which will recycle up to approximately 9,000 AFY. Planning and design are proceeding on this project and certain components of the project are already under construction. The District is also constructing the Clean Water Revival project, a wastewater disposal and indirect potable reuse project which will treat 2.5 MGD of wastewater effluent by reverse osmosis for replenishment of the local groundwater basin. This project will be operational by December, 1998.

The Dublin San Ramon Services District is a public utility.

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The District has further demonstrated its commitment to recycling and reuse by recent adoption of a Recycled Water Use Ordinance, which mandates the construction of recycled water facilities and use of recycled water to serve approved landscape irrigation demands of new development within the District.

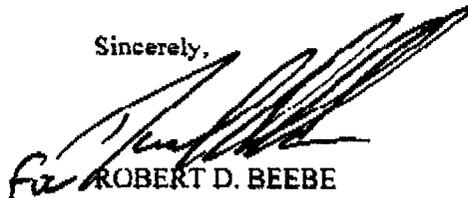
Therefore the District supports enthusiastically the inclusion of the Water Use Efficiency Program in the EIR/EIS, which reduces the demand for Delta water supplies by increasing water conservation and recycling. The District strongly encourages a high value be placed on the Water Use Efficiency Element as a common water supply element included in any Bay-Delta solution alternative. The District further strongly encourages CALFED to identify water recycling efforts as viable means to affect water supply and through Delta water quality benefits.

The District believes significant contributions to through Delta water quality and viable long term water supply benefits are afforded by recycled water as a water supply on par with new impoundments or other water developments. We strongly suggest that water recycling be afforded Statewide significance as a water supply option within the EIR/EIS, rather than as an option only for coastal drainages which do not drain into the Delta. Use of recycled water, as an adjunct to potable supplies for landscape irrigation or through indirect or direct potable reuse, can represent a significant improvement to Delta water quality by removing wastewater flows which currently drain to the Delta, thus reducing pollutant loads, temperature impacts, and degradation of fish and wildlife habitat and improving water quality for through Delta uses.

Finally, the District advocates a coordinated planning effort by CALFED agencies toward water recycling projects. Current efforts are not well coordinated by government agencies, and regional and State efforts are required to facilitate coordination and funding opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the subject document. The District point of contact for our comments is Bruce Webb, Engineering Planner. He can be reached at (925)551-7230, Ext 110.

Sincerely,



ROBERT D. BEEBE
General Manager

RDR:RW

cc. Vince Wong, Zone 7 Water Agency
Peter McLaggan, WaterReuse
Richard Harris, EBMUD
Eugene Talmadge, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Dave Requa, Engineering Manager

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