

Cover # 3

Dear Interested Parties:

Accompanying this letter is a copy of the Executive Summary for the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR) for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and a copy of the Revised Phase II Report, a concise explanation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, its purpose and the process by which we propose to proceed with the Program. The Revised Phase II Report is an appendix to the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR which was filed on June 25, 1999.

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is a cooperative effort by fifteen state and federal agencies with regulatory and management responsibilities in the San Francisco Bay-Sacramento/San Joaquin River Bay-Delta ecosystem. Its purpose is to develop a long-term plan to restore ecosystem health and improve water management of the Bay-Delta system. The objective of this collaborative planning process is to identify comprehensive solutions to the problems of ecosystem quality, water supply reliability, water quality, and Delta levee and channel integrity.

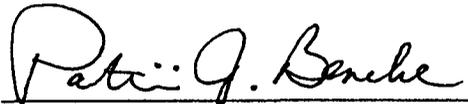
This Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR is a joint product of the efforts of each of the CALFED participating agencies and represents a major step in the process toward collectively achieving CALFED's objectives. It identifies a Preferred Program Alternative to achieve these objectives, and evaluates the environmental impacts of proceeding with this plan. It also analyzes the environmental impacts of each of three alternatives, and compares the Preferred Program Alternative to the other alternatives. Each of the alternatives includes the core programs which address issues of ecosystem restoration, water use efficiency, water quality, Delta levee and channel integrity, water transfers, and watershed management coordination, as well as a range of storage and conveyance options.

The primary purpose of the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR is to inform decision-makers and the public about the impacts the various alternatives could have on both the human and the natural environment and to evaluate how well the alternatives meet the Program purposes. Because the Program is a long-term plan for the Bay-Delta ecosystem, the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR is a programmatic level planning document focusing on the interrelated long-term and cumulative consequences of the various alternatives. Subsequent environmental review for the project-specific actions involved in implementation of the Program will follow the approval of the Final EIS/EIR.

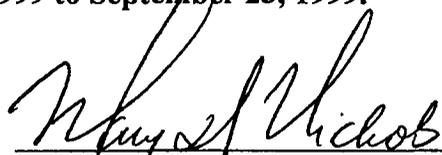
CALFED Agencies

California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Resources Agency Department of Fish and Game Department of Water Resources California Environmental Protection Agency State Water Resources Control Board Department of Food and Agriculture 	Federal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Protection Agency Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Geological Survey Bureau of Land Management U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service U.S. Forest Service Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service Western Area Power Administration
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We encourage you to share with us your comments and suggestions on the Revised Phase II Report and the Executive Summary. Enclosed with this letter is a list of the libraries where the complete Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR is available. If you wish a copy of the complete Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR either on compact disk or printed format or would like a list of Public Hearing locations, please contact the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155, Sacramento, CA 95814; Attention: Rick Breitenbach, or call (800) 900-3587. **Public comments on the Draft Programmatic EIS/EIR are due by the end of the public comment period which is from June 25, 1999 to September 23, 1999.**



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MARY NICHOLS
Secretary for Resources
State of California



LESTER A. SNOW
Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Enclosure