

CALFED
PUBLIC HEARING

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REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT

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6:58 p.m.

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Reporting Officer:
Keli Rutherford, CSR No. 10084

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PORTALE & ASSOCIATES DEPOSITION REPORTERS

211 East Weber Avenue
Stockton, California 95202

KELI RUTHERDALE, CSR #10084
PORTALE & ASSOCIATES (209) 462-3377

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1 (All parties present, the following proceedings were had at
 2 6:58 p.m.)

3 MR. RYAN: Good evening. My name is Mayo
 4 Ryan, and I'm a fourth generation family farmer from the
 5 west side of Fresno County. I'm also a member of the board
 6 of directors of the California Association of Wheat Growers.
 7 I'm alarmed at CALFED's stated purpose of a
 8 balanced water solution is being ignored by not prioritizing
 9 higher the development of increased water supplies and
 10 storage. I'm also worried that the inevitable further cuts
 11 in agricultural supply of irrigation water, for any reason,
 12 could mean disaster for me and for the many farmers in my
 13 area.

14 Despite many wet years and even flooding at
 15 times, we've received less than our full allocation of water
 16 in seven of the past nine years. Current environmental
 17 restrictions on pumping water south of the Delta are the
 18 main cause. We've already given up a sizable amount of our
 19 allocation to the Central Valley Project Improvement Act,
 20 and we continue to be severely impacted by the Endangered
 21 Species Act, most recently when the Delta's export pumps
 22 were shut down due to delayed smelt migration patterns.
 23 Critical storage was lost for next year's allocation due to
 24 this one instance alone.

25 But we understand the need for these

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1 restrictions, and we've learned to live with these reduced
 2 allocations, especially in wet years, by adopting most of
 3 the easy water conservation measures. We're pumping from
 4 wells already overdrafted, we've altered crop patterns to
 5 make the best use of what little water we have, and all
 6 that's left are difficult and expensive measures that aren't
 7 economically feasible.

8 My worry is simply: What are we going to do
 9 in dry years and what are we going to do when the state's
 10 population is greater by fifteen or twenty million? CALFED
 11 must plan for these events by prioritizing higher new water
 12 supplies and increased storage, while at the same time
 13 protecting increased water rights and allocations.

14 New water storage is essential for all
 15 interests in California: For maintaining the current
 16 allocation to agriculture, for meeting the needs of a
 17 population boom, and for preserving the fragile Delta
 18 environment. Anything less is not a balanced solution.

19 Rather than developing these new water
 20 supplies and increased storage, the draft proposal proposes
 21 first to generate water through conservation, reallocation,
 22 and water transfers. It appears that agriculture is the
 23 group giving up water to meet these demands. Simply the
 24 farmer can't bear the full burden of CALFED's conservation
 25 and reallocation plans.

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1 CALFED's plan to rearrange water supplies to
 2 meet both current and future needs is not a solution, only a
 3 short-term patch. Increased water supplies and storage must
 4 be a critical component of the draft, and I urge the panel
 5 to consider changes that mandate both as a priority.

6 Protection of existing water rights and new
 7 and timely water storage are critical in any balanced
 8 solution under the CALFED process. Thank you.

9 MR. EVANS: Good evening. My name is Steve
 10 Evans. I'm conservation director, Friends of the River.

11 I think we all need to remember why CALFED was
 12 started, and that was we were heading towards an ecological
 13 disaster, not only in the Bay-Delta estuary but in the
 14 upstream rivers, with numerous endangered species reaching
 15 the point where they are becoming extinct and the need to
 16 resolve that issue, and that should remain the primary
 17 purpose of CALFED.

18 From my perspective, however, CALFED has been
 19 hijacked and has become a water supply program on the theory
 20 that you can't both restore the environment and without
 21 increasing the water supply, and I think that's a real
 22 problem. I think there's a dichotomy there. I don't think
 23 you can solve a problem caused by the building of dams and
 24 diversions over the last hundred years by building yet more
 25 dam and diversions.

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1 CALFED is a program in conflict with itself.
 2 It almost has institutional schizophrenia. Case in point:
 3 CALFED claims it's going to follow all laws. And yet even a
 4 six-and-a-half foot expansion Shasta Dam, a raise of Shasta
 5 Dam, would flood portions of the McCloud River that state
 6 law says should remain in free flowing and protective of its
 7 outstanding remarkable values. The Redbank storage project,
 8 one of the twelve storage projects being considered by
 9 CALFED, violates CALFED's own commitment not to build new
 10 dams on in-stream rivers.

11 Another storage project being considered by
 12 CALFED, the Pinoche project in the San Joaquin Valley,
 13 floods critical habitat designated for protection under the
 14 Endangered Species Act. Here again is a CALFED program in
 15 conflict with itself. CALFED was intended to protect
 16 endangered species, yet they are going to put habitat or
 17 these endangered species under water.

18 CALFED -- a major restoration program in
 19 CALFED is restoration of the naturally ecological process of
 20 river meander along the Sacramento River. And that's a
 21 great program. It's something Friends of the River and many
 22 other people strongly support.

23 The problem is that CALFED is proposing to
 24 build four off-stream storage reservoirs in the Sacramento
 25 Valley that will divert massive amounts of water from the

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1 Sacramento River. Some computer model runs I've seen
 2 indicate as much as sixty-seven percent of the average
 3 monthly flow of the Sacramento River could be diverted to
 4 supply these off-stream storage reservoir. That's taking
 5 away the mechanism needed for -- to run this nationally
 6 ecological process, the river meander. You have to have
 7 high flows in order for this river to meander and protect
 8 the ecosystem of the river.

9 CALFED is proposing to remove many dams, and
 10 we strongly support that, but we also note that most of
 11 those dams aren't the large barrier dams that have blocked
 12 off ninety percent of the habitat. And I will mention those
 13 in my written comments. Thank you.

14 MS. STEPHENS: You have my written comments.
 15 Good evening. My name is Meredith Stephens. I serve as
 16 president of the California Association of Wheat Growers. I
 17 am part of a fifth-family -- fifth generation family farming
 18 operation in Northern California, and I have been an
 19 environmental consultant for the past twenty-five years.
 20 Yes, you can be all those things.

21 Of course there are serious problems in the
 22 Delta, and they will grow worse as our state is paved over
 23 to serve a population of fourteen and a half million
 24 estimated for the next twenty years.

25 As a farmer and environmentalist, I find that

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1 agriculture is being asked to pay an exorbitant price for a
 2 solution that will benefit largely urban interests and fish
 3 and wildlife. The farmers' payback is loss of critically
 4 needed water and loss of control over his land.

5 When it comes to mitigation or environmental
 6 impacts on agriculture, the language in the latest phase two
 7 EIS/EIR becomes increasingly vague and clouded. Commitments
 8 to environmental restoration are clearly stated with words
 9 like "will" and "must be," while agricultural protection is
 10 described as "if appropriate," "if feasible," and "if" in
 11 general. All of these ifs are to be decided in the future
 12 by CALFED. This is not acceptable under CEQA or NEPA
 13 mandates and regulations.

14 What must be done to improve CALFED analysis
 15 and process for agriculture? One, clear recognition that
 16 agricultural resources are part of the existing environment
 17 and must be protected just as are other features of the
 18 environment. Two, expand the range of alternatives to be
 19 more than just conveyance alternatives.

20 Three, ag impacts must be clearly described.
 21 How much ag land will be fallowed and forced to shift to
 22 less intensive, less revenue crops. Describe impacts on
 23 farm workers in impacted rural communities. Four, include
 24 ag resource mitigation measures at the problematic level.
 25 That means now. Additional timely storage must offset water

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1 losses to achieve mitigation.

2 Five, water rights associated with land and
 3 any water transfers must be kept under local control. Six,
 4 avoid land grabs by focusing restoration efforts first on
 5 existing public lands. Seven, require that each acquisition
 6 be analyzed under CEQA and NEPA, unlike the thousands of
 7 acres that CALFED has already acquired with no environmental
 8 scrutiny. Eight, make CDFA a responsible agency under CEQA
 9 for protection of statewide agricultural resources.

10 The future of agriculture hangs in the
 11 balance. Without full mitigation, transferring water from
 12 agriculture to provide habitat restoration and more water
 13 for insatiable urban water demands will cause irreversible
 14 losses to our farmers, our economy, and the people of
 15 California. This will truly be the environmental tragedy of
 16 the next millennium. Thank you for listening.

17 MS. COLBERT: Good evening. My name is
 18 Jeanette Colbert. I live in Davis, California. I am the
 19 third generation of a farm family born and raised in the
 20 Central Valley. I have lived and worked and played along
 21 this valley's rivers and streams all my life. As a farmer's
 22 daughter, I have grown to realize there are different ways
 23 to think about issues than what I learned from my farming
 24 family. As a former elementary school teacher, I know
 25 education works. Let's educate ourselves on how we can

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1 protect our precious watershed and environment.

2 I am concerned about CALFED's proposal to
 3 build up to four off-stream storage dams in the Sacramento
 4 Valley. Even though these dams are off-stream, they will
 5 significantly reduce the flow of the Sacramento River.

6 According to CALFED's ecosystem restoration
 7 plan, we have already reduced the average annual flow of the
 8 Sacramento River by thirty-five percent. Diversions from
 9 the Sacramento River to fill CALFED's off-stream storage
 10 reservoirs could decrease the average flow of the river by
 11 more than sixty percent.

12 According to CALFED, we have already reduced
 13 the average annual flow of the San Joaquin River by more
 14 than eighty percent. As a result, the river spring run
 15 Chinook salmon and steelhead are extinct, the riverbed is
 16 dry most of the year. Let's not do the same thing to the
 17 Sacramento River. Let's not divert the Sacramento until it
 18 is too dry and its salmon and steelhead runs are extinct.

19 Conservation works. We don't need to build
 20 any more river-killing dams, whether they are off-stream or
 21 not. My dad was a farmer, and he loved to fish. I think he
 22 would be sad to see the state of the rivers today.

23 Conservation works. Let's try it. Thank you.

24 MS. LEE: My name is Joan Lee. I'm speaking
 25 for Grey Panthers of Northern California. I'm a forty-year

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1 resident of the valley and three current family generations
 2 living here. My father was a farmer. My grandfather helped
 3 build the levees.
 4 I've just returned from an extensive vacation
 5 throughout the west, looking for some time in the natural
 6 environment. I have to say it's getting extremely difficult
 7 to find a place where dams and canals, channeling, and
 8 diversion have not had a dramatic adverse impact. We've
 9 basically destroyed most of the west through shortsighted
 10 planning and building of endless dams, reservoirs, and
 11 canals.
 12 It's my firm belief that CALFED should not
 13 consider expanding or building those kinds of projects until
 14 the alternate solutions have been given a thorough chance to
 15 work. No peripheral canal and no enlargement of Shasta Dam
 16 and reservoir. We taxpayers shouldn't have to subsidize
 17 environmentally damaging and overly expensive models.
 18 I would assert that CALFED has not explored in
 19 depth all the potential methods of water conservation to
 20 meet our needs. We believe this can best be done by
 21 advisory bodies that bring farmers to the table with
 22 environmentalists and citizen advocates not as adversaries,
 23 but in the spirit of helping the farmers to find solutions.
 24 Sitting down together has been productive in rice straw
 25 burning alternatives issues. It has worked well in crafting

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1 nursing home reforms, and it can work with water.
 2 Your plans shouldn't include irrigating vast
 3 acres of marginal use land where excessive water is
 4 necessary for development and where runoff and toxins would
 5 be devastating to both people and wildlife. Instead we
 6 should pay willing sellers to stop irrigating and locate
 7 elsewhere.
 8 CALFED and the public must recognize the need
 9 for water meters. Much of the nation lives with them as a
 10 matter of course. We need Sacramento Valley urban areas,
 11 Sacramento/Fresno, to require metered water and volume-based
 12 water rates. In Sacramento changing the city charter to
 13 allow for installing of water meters is vital because it
 14 could save as much water as building the now infamous
 15 five-hundred-and-fifty-foot-high Auburn Dam, which
 16 incidentally, Grey Panthers strongly opposed.
 17 Finally advanced treatment techniques should
 18 be used to improve our drinking water, the quality of what
 19 comes out of our taps. The solution lies in developing and
 20 strictly enforcing high water quality standards in order to
 21 preserve both our health and that of the environment.
 22 That's the bottom line. Both the needs of people and the
 23 entire web of life need to be addressed. Thank you for
 24 hearing from the Grey Panthers on these matters.
 25 MR. WADE: My name is Alan Wade. I'm the

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1 president of S.A.R.A., the Save the American River
 2 Association. And the brief comments I'll be making are
 3 simply extracted from a much longer document which we've
 4 already mailed to you.
 5 We're a grass roots organization founded in
 6 1961 to promote the protection, conservation, and
 7 restoration of the lands, waters, and resources of the lower
 8 American River and the Parkway. While our primary concern
 9 is the protection of this area, along with the aquatic and
 10 terrestrial ecosystems of the American River Parkway, our
 11 concerns must also include to totality of the Bay-Delta
 12 system. S.A.R.A. has witnessed the impacts to the lower
 13 American River and its resources by agencies trying to make
 14 demands elsewhere in the state, particularly south of the
 15 Delta.
 16 We believe that any water use and management
 17 plan must have, as its priority, greater protection of
 18 stream flows to conserve and restore public trust interests
 19 and beneficial uses of the state's waters, rivers, and
 20 estuary ecosystems. We believe that such a priority would
 21 lead to water conservation, wise use of water, and
 22 protection of the public trust interests in the area of
 23 origin.
 24 We further endorse and reaffirm the duty of
 25 the state to protect the people's common heritage of

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1 streams, lakes, marshlands, and tidelands, believing that
 2 this duty should only be set aside in those rare cases when
 3 its abandonment is consistent with the purposes of the
 4 public trust. The basis for this affirmation is found in a
 5 variety of court decisions, including Racanelli, Audubon,
 6 and a number of others which we've cited in our written
 7 material.
 8 The core of the public trust doctrine is that
 9 the state must administer its interests consistent with
 10 trust purposes and values. The duties imposed upon the
 11 state are those of a trustee, not those of a business
 12 manager trying to cut a deal.
 13 We believe that any water use and management
 14 program should emphasize a policy of maximum water
 15 conservation and should include at least the following:
 16 One, conserving the natural water supply, both surface and
 17 groundwater. Two, conserving the quality of that water
 18 supply, including its integrity and the uses and values
 19 associated with it; and three, conserving, protecting, and
 20 restoring water quality to provide for the greatest reuse
 21 capabilities. Protection of water quality enhances the
 22 capability for reuse, thereby increasing the available
 23 supply for all users.
 24 In conclusion we believe that all diverters,
 25 as well as dischargers, that includes agricultural,

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1 domestic, and industrial should understand: One, the use of
 2 usufructuary nature of water; that is, common good. Two,
 3 that a water right is not vested, but it can be regulated by
 4 the state at any time to protect the interests governed by
 5 the public trust. Thank you. That's enough.

6 MS. ANDOLINA: Hi. My name is Tina Andolina.
 7 I'm with Friends of the Trinity River, and as many of you
 8 already know, the Trinity River is separate from the CALFED
 9 process and its restoration efforts are mandated by not only
 10 its authorization legislation in 1955 but also the CVPIA and
 11 the Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Act of
 12 1984.

13 However, since CALFED is such an important
 14 issue and has such an opportunity to restore so many of
 15 California's waterways, we could not give up the opportunity
 16 to submit our comments.

17 In speaking of the Trinity River and
 18 specifically the Trinity River Basin Fish and Wildlife
 19 Management Act, that act states as its goal restoring the
 20 fisheries of the Trinity River back to the levels which
 21 existed prior to construction of the Trinity division. That
 22 goal has given the Trinity River a realistic opportunity for
 23 restoration, and we believe that CALFED should adopt a
 24 similar goal to restoring not only the Bay-Delta but also
 25 the streams and rivers throughout the state and that

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1 establishing that sort of goal could give California's
 2 environment a real chance for restoration.

3 And I'm going to make a couple points in
 4 bullet form so I can be quick. We believe that the EWA
 5 should be used as a mechanism to gain more water for
 6 ecosystem restoration and that the EWA should pursue
 7 actively the acquisition of water on top of water that's
 8 already designated to the environment; that includes b2
 9 water and also the water that will go for the Trinity.

10 And we believe that a critical element missing
 11 from the CALFED program is clear and beneficial objectives
 12 to the restoration of the fish runs. On top of just adding
 13 more flows in the streams to restore the fish, we also
 14 believe that you need significant cold water summer flows in
 15 the Central Valley to help the migrating steelhead.

16 And as the gentleman pointed out earlier, if
 17 it seems as though a lot of our -- a lot of the CALFED
 18 process, a lot of the water is being taken way from
 19 agriculture, well this is because throughout the history of
 20 California water, water has been taken from the environment
 21 and given to agriculture.

22 And now we finally come to a point where we
 23 need to realize that that sort of mentality, stripping the
 24 environment of water, cannot last and is not sustainable,
 25 and as a state, our economy is being devastated. This is

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1 particularly true in Trinity County where the economy has
 2 severely suffered due to the drop in fish population by up
 3 to ninety percent.

4 So clearly just taking all the water and
 5 giving it to agriculture is not a beneficial use of our
 6 water. Our economies have suffered, and now we need to use
 7 the CALFED process effectively and really put as a priority
 8 restoring our state's environment. Thank you very much.

9 MS. FERROGGIARO: Hello. My name is Suzanne
 10 Ferroggiaro. I'm here tonight to comment as a parent, an
 11 educator, and a taxpayer. My comments focus on the key
 12 words of the CALFED mission statement: Long-term,
 13 comprehensive, restore, and improve.

14 I urge you to especially consider the
 15 long-term implications of any plans on those who can't speak
 16 for themselves tonight, the future generations of our
 17 children and our grandchildren. I urge you to balance
 18 agricultural, domestic, industrial, and environmental uses
 19 of the Bay-Delta in a comprehensive plan. I urge you to
 20 restore the ecological health of the Bay-Delta as an equal
 21 part of that comprehensive balance, and I urge you to
 22 improve upon the system of water management that has gotten
 23 us into this sorry situation.

24 Specifically consider these points: CALFED
 25 must invest aggressively in the least expensive and least

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1 environmentally damaging solutions, especially during the
 2 first stage of the program such as water conservation,
 3 efficiency, pollution prevention, and drinking water
 4 treatment.

5 CALFED must not consider new or expanded dams,
 6 canals, or reservoirs until after the first stage when
 7 alternative solutions have been given a real chance to work.
 8 Taxpayers should not subsidize these options. They are
 9 generally the most expensive and most environmentally
 10 damaging.

11 Conservation does work. Using technologies
 12 and methods available today, farmers and industries and
 13 cities could each reduce water use by ten to thirty percent
 14 with no sacrifice of economic output or quality of life.

15 CALFED's draft documents do not adequately
 16 reflect or model the full potential for water conservation
 17 and efficiency to meet California's water needs.

18 CALFED needs to put less emphasis on the old
 19 approaches to water management. Our state has the largest
 20 and most complex plumbing system in the world. We already
 21 have more than one thousand four hundred major dams in this
 22 state. These dams have led to the widespread devastation of
 23 California's environment.

24 CALFED has not made clear how it will obtain
 25 the water needed for real environmental restoration, nor

1 have they quantified how much water will be needed to
2 restore our waterways and the fish and wildlife depending on
3 them.

4 I would also like to urge you to take a clue
5 from the people who used to live here for thousands of years
6 sustainably. I know we will not want to live their life
7 style, but we've only been here about two hundred years, and
8 we've gotten ourselves where we are now by the practices
9 we've had in the past. And it might be a good idea to take
10 a clue from the sustainable practices of letting nature have
11 its course and living with it rather than trying to control
12 it. Thank you.

13 MS. CHADIMA: Good evening. My name is Carole
14 Chadima. I'm with a group called MYRACL. It stands for
15 Middle Yuba River Area Citizens League. We're in the upper
16 watershed above Grass Valley about thirty miles.

17 CALFED needs to answer the needs of many of
18 us: Farmers, environmentalists, and many who fall in
19 neither category but other than that of stakeholders. But
20 it is evident that we have at least one thing in common, and
21 that is the concern of water and how and what it is to be
22 used for and throughout the state.

23 There's forty-two million acre feet of water
24 behind dams currently, and it would seem as though before we
25 consider adding any new dams to the system that we learn to

1 The EIS/EIR should not be based on the
2 assumption that the state and federal government will pass
3 the necessary legislation to see it through. You have to
4 make plans that they wouldn't and it is followed by your
5 own. Thank you.

6 MR. FERROGGIARO: My name is Rob Ferroggiaro.
7 I'm the vice president of conservation for the Federation of
8 Fly Fishers, but I'm also here tonight as a native
9 Californian, father, taxpayer, and an avid angler. I have
10 three specific points I'd like to make.

11 First, the plan, as it stands now, seems to
12 lack some very important specifics. Certainly there are
13 areas of great potential, such as the ecosystem restoration
14 program and the watershed program, but unfortunately the
15 alternatives in the program are too vague. They lack
16 specific information so they can be evaluated and so that
17 there will accountability during implementation.

18 In particular we need answers to two very
19 specific questions: One, how much water will it take to
20 restore an ecosystem and bring the fish back; and two,
21 exactly where will it come from? In light of our past
22 experience with water programs in California, anything less
23 than this level of specifics is an insufficient EIR and
24 empty promise.

25 Second, the plan contains the looming specter

1 manage that which we have.

2 Many of the facts that CALFED is basing its
3 EIS/EIR have come from sources that perhaps should, at the
4 very least, be reviewed for content and accuracy. Many of
5 the facts and figures that we have historically been using
6 and are now using are being changed and challenged and many
7 with good cause, but you cannot expect to reach the correct
8 solutions if all of your facts are being based or used are
9 not absolute and sure.

10 Setting the problems of the Delta to the Bay
11 and to the environment that is affected is stated as
12 paramount within your study, but you must start the solving
13 in the upper watershed and work your way downstream. For if
14 you base the solutions on the Delta on assuming of what is
15 in the upper watershed, and, in fact, the assumption is
16 wrong, will the solutions then not have to be readjusted to
17 accommodate the new facts? And on and on it would go all
18 the way through the Delta and all the way through your
19 solutions.

20 You cannot base your solutions for the
21 problems that CALFED plans to address on assumptions,
22 neither from what we have to use, where we have to use it,
23 or where we have to use it with. Neither should you base
24 any solution or solutions on something that may or may not
25 happen in the future.

1 of more dams and diversions. It would appear the plan
2 intends in the long-term to solve current problems with the
3 same approaches that created them. Certainly dams and
4 diversions, however they are designed, represent great risk
5 and should not be pursued at any time early in this project.
6 This should provide a chance for alternatives to work and to
7 reevaluate consumption projections.

8 Then there's the matter of money. You will
9 hear appeals, I'm sure, as you had before from certain
10 interests for more storage and conveyance, but you will not
11 hear offers to pay for them. Taxpayers are not in the frame
12 of mind now as they were in the middle of this century. We
13 have moved to a system where those who have benefited in the
14 past and those who benefit in the future are the ones who
15 pay.

16 Third, dams and diversions have blocked
17 steelhead and salmon access to over ninety percent of the
18 original habitat, and in many cases reduced rivers to
19 trickles or dried them up entirely. This program sets
20 steelhead recovery goals far below the potential identified
21 by the Department of Fish and Game. The basis for these
22 goals are vague and unclear. We need specific, ambitious
23 goals for steelhead.

24 A few good restoration projects are being
25 developed. For example, Butte and Battle Creeks, but the

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1 plan must include aggressive projects on places like the
 2 Upper Yuba and San Joaquin. Projects should include the
 3 removal of barriers to fish passage or functional fish
 4 access, increase in stream flows, temperature targets and
 5 monitoring, and the acquisition and the restoration of
 6 habitat.

7 To restore a fisheries in Delta ecosystems
 8 that have a high quality of life in California, we now need
 9 boldness of vision, tempered by the hard lessons of this
 10 century. I'm looking forward to seeing your results.

11 MR. KIRKWOOD: Good evening. My name is Marty
 12 Kirkwood. I hear that a lot of people are comparing how
 13 many generations they have been farming or in California.
 14 Well, I am a sixth-generation Californian, and I feel that
 15 this is an important process for which efficient usage of
 16 one of life's and our state's greatest resources, water, is
 17 to be met with grave consideration to be given to pollution
 18 prevention, conservation, and interdisciplinary education
 19 goals and program implementation.

20 Water quality: Water quality improvement is
 21 essential for the Bay-Delta and all tributaries and
 22 watersheds that feed into California waterways. This
 23 process must, without question, include implementation of
 24 water metering and all urban areas throughout the state of
 25 California. This will benefit farmers and the environment

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1 alike.

2 Education: Education starts in schools.
 3 CALFED needs to address conservation of water in the
 4 classrooms. Implementation of all goals should be enforced
 5 with hammer provisions to ensure the will of the
 6 conservation goals. Taxpayers should not pay for the most
 7 expensive projects. Please be sure to remember this.

8 California is golden. Let the rivers flow.
 9 Tame the growth of urban areas and share the water with all.
 10 Please take this under advisement, and I thank you for your
 11 great consideration.

12 MS. DUFFY: This is a very difficult process
 13 for each and every one of you, and I applaud all the time
 14 that has gone into it, but I really urge you to listen to
 15 our comments today.

16 CALFED must invest aggressively in the least
 17 expensive and least environmentally damaging solutions being
 18 water conservation, water efficiency, pollution prevention,
 19 and drinking water treatment.

20 CALFED mustn't consider new or expanding dams,
 21 canals, or reservoirs. Give alternative solutions a chance
 22 before walking down the wrong road, a road that we have been
 23 walking down for far too many years. We have tried dams.
 24 We've tried reservoirs, and it's obvious that they don't
 25 work. Try conservational practices before anything else.

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1 Using technologies available today, farmers,
 2 industries, and cities each could reduce their water usage
 3 by ten to thirty percent with no sacrifice of economic
 4 output or quality of life.

5 If your mission statement states that you need
 6 to restore the ecological integrity, then why is that?
 7 Could it be because of all of the damage that has already
 8 been done by building dams and reservoirs? Thank you.

9 MR. LAMPE: Good evening. My name is William
 10 Lampe. I will make this short and brief because everything
 11 that I was going to say everybody has said except for the
 12 one point. I'm supporting conservation, and I would like to
 13 point out that IA has been able to support a growth of a
 14 million people since 1984 without using any more water.
 15 Thank you.

16 MR. JORGENSEN: Hi. I'm Greg Jorgensen. I
 17 live up in Coloma. Thanks for the opportunity to talk.

18 Lately I've been spending a lot of time with
 19 my dad and grandfather driving around. I guess I'm a third
 20 generation Californian, but there's hints of Native American
 21 in me so maybe it goes back several centuries. I don't
 22 really know for sure.

23 I'm amazed at how much California has changed
 24 over the years in many, many ways. Creeks that used to be
 25 there are no longer there. Rivers are being dammed. I

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1 think of this quote by Native American Chief Seattle who
 2 said "We do not inherit this land from our parents. We are
 3 borrowing it from our kids." And I think of all these dams.
 4 I think, "Wow, land wasn't borrowed from me, it was robbed
 5 from me." So I really want to urge CALFED not to consider
 6 more dams in the future because we are robbing many, many
 7 generations -- we are robbing the opportunity for them to
 8 see rivers in a natural wild state.

9 We have fourteen hundred dams here. That
 10 represents a lot of rivers and a lot of wildlife that's in
 11 the process or has been completely destroyed.

12 I have this button here that says
 13 "Conservation works." I really want to urge you to really
 14 pursue all means of conservation without taking a step
 15 forward by building new dams and really causing some
 16 long-lasting environmental adverse effects. Thank you.

17 MR. WENGER: Good evening. My name is Paul
 18 Wenger. I'm a farmer from Modesto and second vice president
 19 the California Farm Bureau Federation.

20 This has been an interesting experience. I've
 21 attended six of your CALFED hearings around the state.
 22 You've heard many ideas and solutions to California and the
 23 Bay-Delta's water needs. In Oakland you heard from someone
 24 that the solution was easy: We just tear out all the dams
 25 in the Sierras and you would have all the cold, free-flowing

1 water you'd ever need. The question is, and it's an
 2 interesting idea, but for how long would that water flow?
 3 In Chico you heard that dams really don't work
 4 anyway because when the drought finally broke in '93, all
 5 the dams and reservoirs were pretty much empty anyway. No
 6 kidding. I thought that was the idea: Store water for a
 7 time of need.

8 When the hearings were over and I'm on my way
 9 home, and it's usually late at night, I always think it's
 10 best that maybe I top off my gas tank, just like many do,
 11 especially if it's late at night or a long way to the next
 12 gas station, just in case. Top off the old tank so you
 13 don't run out. You can always conserve gas by driving
 14 slower or gliding down hills, etcetera, but it's nice to
 15 have a full tank of gas.

16 Then I think how ironic it is. Here we are
 17 discussing the most vital resource to the health and
 18 economic well-being of our state, and your proposed plan
 19 fails to provide the necessary safety net for the future of
 20 our great state, additional water storage.

21 None of us want to run out of fuel in our
 22 cars, but you seem willing to roll the dice in California's
 23 future by focusing on conservation, conjunctive use
 24 transfers, and habitat restoration.

25 The message at all the meetings I've attended

1 fundamental to the environmental well-being of the entire
 2 Bay Area and much of the Bay Area's economic vitality is
 3 supported by the Bay-Delta estuary, including industries
 4 such as tourism, recreational and commercial fishing, and
 5 Bay-Delta's estuary's health is in rapid decline, manifested
 6 by various indicators, including dramatic reductions in fish
 7 populations due to a variety of devastating impacts,
 8 including the diversion of fifty percent of the watershed
 9 river flows, the loss of eighty-five percent of the historic
 10 wetlands, and the discharge of forty thousand tons of
 11 pollutants into the Bay.

12 And the CALFED process provides a critical
 13 opportunity for input on these issues affecting the San
 14 Francisco Bay-Delta estuary during the public comment
 15 period.

16 Therefore, be it resolved that the council of
 17 the town of Hillsborough and the board of supervisors of San
 18 Mateo, county who adopted identical resolutions, feel that
 19 these following essential elements must be incorporated into
 20 the future policies and programs undertaken by CALFED:

21 A guarantee that there will be adequate
 22 freshwater flows into the Bay. The estuary's historic
 23 freshwater flows have been reduced by half, as I mentioned a
 24 moment ago. Science-based standards should be required to
 25 establish minimum freshwater flows into the Bay, adequate

1 was overwhelming, and you must make note of it and address
 2 it: We need additional storage. Do you have the ability to
 3 take the leadership role, be visionary, and show the
 4 intestinal fortitude not just to talk about but take real
 5 steps towards developing new surface storage which will fuel
 6 California's environmental health, provide for its urban
 7 needs, and sustain the world's seventh largest economy well
 8 into the 21st century, or will you fall short, think only
 9 short-term?

10 Remember, if this state is confronted with
 11 another sustained drought with additional water storage, all
 12 those who spoke for conservation, etcetera will sink away
 13 and the responsibility for not thinking ahead will be yours,
 14 but our entire state and all of us alike will suffer for it.
 15 Good luck and plan well. Thank you.

16 MS. AUER: Good evening. Thank you for this
 17 opportunity to comment. I'm here as vice mayor of the town
 18 of Hillsborough and as the alternate for San Mateo County to
 19 the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, some
 20 passing interest of yours in the past, I believe. Both
 21 those organizations have, those governmental bodies have
 22 passed a resolution, and I'd like to read part of it to you
 23 this evening.

24 Whereas the health of the San Francisco
 25 Bay-Delta estuary and diverse ecosystems it supports are

1 freshwater flows will improve water quality, support
 2 biological diversity, and improve the health of the
 3 ecosystems in the estuary.

4 Second point is water conservation by all
 5 users. Equitable water conservation practices must be
 6 required and enforced for all users throughout California.
 7 Managing demand through conservation practices and greater
 8 water use efficiency can substantially reduce the need to
 9 construct new storage facilities.

10 Last but not least, a fair share of funding
 11 for Bay Area environmental restoration efforts. EPA's
 12 Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan, BCDC's San
 13 Francisco Bay Plan, and the Regional Water Quality Control
 14 Board Basin Plan established numerous beneficial measures
 15 that must be taken to protect and restore the habitat and
 16 improve fish and wildlife in the Bay-Delta estuary.

17 Of the most recent funding package, only five
 18 percent came to the projects in the region. Funding to
 19 implement the recommended environmental restoration programs
 20 must be brought up to the levels that are proportional to
 21 the budgets for environmental restoration and other parts of
 22 the state.

23 Other governmental agencies that have adopted
 24 similar or identical resolution are as follows: Counties:
 25 San Francisco, Napa, Marin, San Mateo, Sonoma, Solano.

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1 Cities that have passed a resolution: Belmont,
 2 Hillsborough, Novato, Larkspur, Tiburon, San Anselmo, Mill
 3 Valley, Berkeley, and Petaluma. Agencies that have passed
 4 this resolution are: ABAG, BCDC, MMWD, and East Bay
 5 Regional Parks.
 6 MR. COMPOMIZZO: Hi. I'm Compy Compomizzo.
 7 I'm here representing California Striped Bass Association
 8 and Citizens for Safe Drinking Water, and one of the most
 9 proudest ones I'm heading up is I've been working with the
 10 children for fourteen years, Get Hooked on Fishing, Not on
 11 Drugs. I've touched a lot of their lives. Many thousands
 12 of them. This has been noted by former President Bush and
 13 his wife, Governor Davis, our state senate several times.
 14 I want to be assured of water that these kids
 15 can continue to fish in the Delta, and also in Antioch we
 16 take our drinking water out of the Delta. I want to be sure
 17 it's clean water. I don't want ten or fifteen years to go
 18 by and the kids are starting to get sick from drinking
 19 water.
 20 One thing I'm very proud of, thanks to State
 21 Senator Rainey and Assemblyman Tom Torlikson, the governor
 22 just gave me a fifty-thousand-dollar grant to work with my
 23 kids. I'm real proud of this. Thank you very much. This
 24 is what I want to be assured of: Clean drinking water so
 25 these kids can fish and take them off the drugs because if

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1 you seen the kids taking their life like I have, you would
 2 feel like I do. I'm going to keep an eye on Lester. He
 3 knows it, and this is my feelings. Thank you very, very
 4 much.
 5 MR. DHONDT: Bob Dhondt, volunteer, Friends of
 6 the River. The notion that we can increase our water supply
 7 through conservation is not unlike the notion that the Pope
 8 can impact overpopulation by changing his stand on birth
 9 control. The point is it's obvious. Let's count the ways.
 10 Last time you were in LA you must have felt
 11 the impact of the metering on the water supply. Per person
 12 per day Angelinos use a hundred fifty-five gallons. Here
 13 the number is two hundred seventy-one. Why? They chose
 14 metering. Here meters are outlawed. Do the math. A
 15 hundred sixteen gallons times the number of residential
 16 users without meters times three hundred and sixty-five
 17 days. Before any more concrete trashes any more rivers, we
 18 want that number.
 19 To paraphrase John Muir, the more you
 20 experience life, the more you see that everything is
 21 interrelated. National public radio recently aired an
 22 action alert from Marine biologists. The major dead zones
 23 are appearing in the oceans worldwide, and we're number one.
 24 Yes, the Mississippi Delta has created the biggest dead zone
 25 on earth. How does this connect? The main culprit there is

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1 agro and industrial pollution.
 2 Here in Cal we drew world credits with mere
 3 shamanic foresight have allowed our farmers year after year
 4 to dump eight hundred and forty million tons of the same
 5 pollution onto our land, into our water. SF Bay fishery
 6 unsafe, Sacramento declares. I say if we can't eat the fish
 7 without risk of cancer, the bay is near death. I propose
 8 change.
 9 First, let's invert the water and energy
 10 billing structures: The less you use, the less you pay.
 11 Imagine drought-resistant farms, gardens, and landscaping
 12 instead of lawns and golf in the desert.
 13 Second, instead of creating more farms on
 14 welfare by paying them a thousand dollars per acre foot for
 15 not using water they have traditionally wasted with flood
 16 irrigation, cow food, and other thirsty crops, instead
 17 proportionally reward farmers who convert to drip and
 18 pinpoint irrigation. Further reward those who abandon
 19 chemical-intensive monocultures for the diverse, sustainable
 20 organic farm.
 21 More and bigger dams, canals, and surface
 22 storage you propose are the same ideas that created this
 23 mess. Einstein would tell us that more of the same kind of
 24 thinking simply will not work. A court disaster when the
 25 big one hits. They leak and evaporate, some up to a million

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1 acre feet a year. We must maximize groundwater recharge and
 2 conservation. Third world dams are going up like mushrooms
 3 in the rain forest.
 4 We challenge you. Admit this mistake, rewrite
 5 this plan, put the dollars and the emphases where they
 6 belong, lest our progeny conclude correctly, then we
 7 collectively were too stupid to draw breath.
 8 MR. KOSHMAN: I'm Bob Koshman, and I'm a
 9 farmer, and we grow food for the people to eat in the
 10 Pleasant Grove area thirty miles north of Sacramento. I
 11 need more water, not less water.
 12 I heard a professor at the University speak
 13 one time. He said that people and their leaders have
 14 forgotten where their food comes from. He said they get
 15 their food from the grocery store. They don't get it from
 16 farmers. He said they will keep making it more difficult to
 17 grow food. There is not anything more important to a person
 18 than food and drinking water. If you don't think so, just
 19 try and go without eating for thirty days or not making your
 20 payments on your house, what would be worse? You can't go
 21 without food. That is the most important. There's nothing
 22 more important than food.
 23 Last night I heard on the news they were
 24 talking about the price of milk going to three dollars a
 25 gallon. If cows don't have green grass to eat, how

1 expensive do you think the price of milk will go? Maybe
 2 fifteen or twenty dollars a gallon? Wouldn't that be
 3 terrible.

4 Water is needed to grow food for the people.
 5 It's very important. Maybe it's a good idea for the news
 6 media to let the people know where we're headed: Less
 7 water, less food. It's obvious.

8 I've heard environmentalists say farmers can
 9 do things to conserve water. That's not true. On our ranch
 10 I got fined two hundred and twenty thousand dollars, and I
 11 have to give a hundred and twenty acres of our property to
 12 the federal government. Why? Because I laser-leveled and
 13 fixed one of my fields so I could use less water. That's
 14 what I got fined for. You can't conserve water. It's
 15 against the law.

16 Please do not destroy America's ability to
 17 feed its people doing two things: Taking land that grows
 18 food out of production, don't do that; taking water from
 19 those who grow food, don't do that. These two things can
 20 damage America's ability to feed its people.

21 Now, on the latter -- I can't wake you guys up
 22 -- I went on a tour in Vallejo of some yachts, and in the
 23 bathrooms of some of them there was a sign saying "To
 24 conserve water, only flush when you go number two." Can you
 25 imagine? We put all them signs in all the bathrooms in

1 Army Corp of Engineers project that fifteen point four
 2 million more people to be in California by the year 2020.
 3 This state will be receiving the combined populations of
 4 Arizona, Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, New
 5 Mexico, and Utah. And it will increase urban water use by
 6 three point two million acre feet and decrease agricultural
 7 water deliveries by two point three million acre feet.
 8 Factor in mitigation, and that's quite an impact on
 9 agriculture.

10 According to Tom Howard of the Central Valley
 11 Regional Quality Control Board, during the drought of '87 to
 12 '92, the state, in efforts to deliver its contracted water,
 13 was not able to comply with the mandates of the Endangered
 14 Species Act set forth for Tracy pumps.

15 When the federal government began dictating
 16 state water policy, the state was going to sue. All of
 17 those water, wildlife, and environmental agencies came to
 18 the realization that suing each other would not be
 19 acceptable, so they all got together and formed the Delta
 20 Accord, which is now CALFED. Incredibly, it seems the
 21 regulatory agencies remove themselves from the fray to
 22 become the ones to enforce environmental compliance
 23 guidelines onto the public and are now expecting the entire
 24 private sector to embrace and comply with all of which their
 25 agencies could not. That is a redirected impact.

1 California that says "To conserve water, only flush when you
 2 go number two?"

3 MS. MURPHY: Thank you for this opportunity
 4 for comment. I'm Vicki Murphy. I'm a Caypay Valley
 5 rancher, and I'm on the steering committee for the Cache
 6 Creek Stakeholders, and I'm the associate director for the
 7 Family Water Alliance.

8 I wish to discuss the phrase "No redirected
 9 impacts." Every time a CALFED representative speaks, the
 10 audience always hears "no redirected impacts," but I see
 11 both targeted and redirected impacts in the phase two
 12 documents.

13 CALFED calls for the irreversible and
 14 irretrievable divestment and conversion of hundreds of
 15 thousands of prime and important farmland acres and the
 16 reappropriation of that land's water.

17 The Vacaville Reporter on September 13 said
 18 that there's a plan proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife
 19 Service that calls for breaking Sacramento River levees to
 20 inundate up to forty-two thousand acres of grazing and
 21 agricultural land at the base of a huge wetlands area that
 22 straddles the Yolo and Solano County line. That would be
 23 the North Bay-Delta National Wildlife Refuge. This will
 24 have massive impacts to agricultural.

25 The Department of Water Resources and U.S.

1 CALFED can take advantage of a golden
 2 opportunity here to ensure that California's golden eggs,
 3 golden fruits, golden vegetables, golden meats, and golden
 4 nuts, and golden grains will continue in abundance at the
 5 same time that we can all restore the Delta environment.
 6 There can be water for everyone if the benefits and burdens
 7 are equally distributed. Thank you very much.

8 MR. PAULI: Good evening. My name is Bill
 9 Pauli. I'm a farmer and president of the Farm Bureau. I've
 10 attended your hearings, and I know CALFED has heard much
 11 more criticism than praise for your plan. I also know that
 12 people have a tendency to think that if everyone is upset
 13 with them, they must be doing something right, and I urge
 14 you not to fall into that trap.

15 The reason you have heard so much criticism is
 16 that CALFED plan has a fundamental problem, problems which
 17 must be addressed. The most basic problem is that the
 18 CALFED plan falls prey to the politics of consensus.

19 Because people agree we need to do more for
 20 fish and wildlife, the CALFED plan focuses on fish and
 21 wildlife while forgetting about our California's people.
 22 People need reliable, high quality water. CALFED must
 23 return to its original mission and create a balanced plan
 24 which helps people and our economy as well as the
 25 environment.

1 New water storage must be part of a balanced
 2 CALFED plan to serve our growing state, the environment, and
 3 to meet our future needs. New demands come for water come
 4 from our growing cities and flow requirements mandated by
 5 environmental laws. Farmers understand that unless more
 6 water is added through new supplies, those growing demands
 7 will be met by taking water away from agriculture. Farmers
 8 will continue to conserve, but CALFED must move aggressively
 9 to pursue water storage options both above and below ground.

10 California's farmland is a resource of
 11 worldwide importance. The CALFED plan acknowledges it will
 12 have irretrievable and irreversible effects on nearly a
 13 quarter million acres of farmland. CALFED must not rely on
 14 taking farmland out of production. The CALFED plan respects
 15 farmland only for its value and sustaining fish and
 16 wildlife, not for its value in sustaining people. CALFED
 17 must review the environmental impact of farmland
 18 conservation. It must look for alternatives, and it must
 19 mitigate for any conversion.

20 Hundreds of farmers, farm workers, and rural
 21 residents have come to these hearing in all parts of the
 22 state during the busiest time of the year, our harvest. We
 23 have come because of our concerns about the plan. Farmers,
 24 farm workers, and rural California agree CALFED will succeed
 25 only if it creates a balanced program that provide for the

1 it. Farmers do it. Their water usage hasn't gone up in
 2 thirty years, yet crop production has increased
 3 significantly. Millions of dollars each year are dedicated
 4 to research to help farmers become even more efficient water
 5 users. Farmers support this research.

6 But even the researchers say that we should
 7 not expect huge advances in water efficiencies that we have
 8 seen in the past. The easy work has been done. Researchers
 9 also say that farmers irrigating by means other than drip
 10 irrigation does not mean that farmers are wasting water.
 11 Flow irrigation is a low energy irrigation method, and
 12 farmers laser-level their fields to make sure the water is
 13 being used efficiency. Any runoff goes into the underground
 14 or into the river to be used downstream, it is not wasted.

15 We have a huge population increase on the way.
 16 Because of that, we must create more storage facilities for
 17 surface water. It can be done in an environmentally
 18 responsible manner. For farmers, for the wildlife, for the
 19 rural economy, and for the environment, it is necessary to
 20 keep the land in farm production. Crops produce oxygen.

21 When you finalize your plan, please remember
 22 the farmers and the ranchers who have testified before you
 23 at these last sixteen hearings. They are but a sample of
 24 the people whose lives you will destroy if you neglect to
 25 become serious about increasing water storage and if you

1 needs of all Californians. Thank you.

2 MR. SACK: Good evening. I'm Gary Sack. I'm
 3 a field representative with the California Farm Bureau
 4 Federation. In my twenty years with the California Farm
 5 Bureau, I do not recall any issue that has galvanized
 6 farmers to the extent that they would leave their farms
 7 during the harvest to travel to nearby cities to testify at
 8 hearings in such abundance. Our farmers are concerned about
 9 this plan. They are concerned about the misunderstandings,
 10 also, that some people have about their businesses.

11 Ninety percent of the farmers in California
 12 operate family farms. It is essential farmers receive
 13 enough water to operate their farms. Their farms enable
 14 them to make a living, yes, but they also produce high
 15 quality, affordable, safe food, and we, as consumers, are
 16 supposed to be eating more fruits, vegetables, and dairy
 17 products.

18 Agriculture stimulates the economy and
 19 provides wildlife habitat. Seventy-five percent of the
 20 wildlife habitat in California comes from private land.
 21 That's amazing when you consider the government owns half
 22 the land in the state.

23 At these hearings people who want no water to
 24 be developed have stated that farmers don't care about water
 25 conservation. Untrue. Conservation works. Farmers know

1 push large acreages of land out of production. We need
 2 water, and we need to be able to farm the land. Thank you.
 3 MR. RIVENES: My name is Don Rivenes from
 4 Sierra Foothills Audubon Society. Now is the time to charge
 5 the true cost of supplying water from Sierra Nevada Counties
 6 to the urban and agricultural users.

7 In the past the Central Valley project never
 8 allocated the full development and maintenance costs of
 9 supplying water has been well documented by Mark Reiser's
 10 book "Hair Like Desert." (phonetic) That was true without
 11 considering the ecological cost to the watersheds.

12 The well-being of the forest is crucial to the
 13 quality and quantity of water available. We must now link
 14 the water users of California to watershed restoration and
 15 stewardship programs.

16 The total value of the Feather River water is
 17 between six hundred and seventy-seven million and one point
 18 nine billion dollars per year, yet not a single dollar is
 19 returned on a regular basis to the upper watersheds. A flat
 20 fee of eight dollars per acre foot would generate a hundred
 21 and sixty million dollars in revenue and a ten percent tax
 22 in hydroelectric power would generate an additional
 23 sixty-five million per year. These funds would be used by
 24 the upper watershed counties for watershed restoration. Any
 25 fees could easily be collected through existing water and

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1 power bills.
 2 The end result would be to internalize
 3 watershed maintenance, restoration costs, and pass it on to
 4 the beneficiaries. This additional cost could lead to more
 5 efficient use of water and conservation. Moving and storing
 6 water is far more expensive than conserving water, and it
 7 doesn't create water-like conservation. Thank you.
 8 MS. RIVENES: Good evening. My name is
 9 Barbara Rivenes. I live in Nevada City and the south Yuba
 10 River watershed. I'm the chairperson of the Sierra Nevada
 11 Group of the Sierra Club, and while I speak for members of
 12 the group, I also speak as an individual citizen and
 13 especially as a grandmother who desires to see a sustainable
 14 future for her grandchildren and succeeding generations.
 15 Those are the ones who will really feel the impact of the
 16 decisions by this body.
 17 Many of my comments have been made already
 18 this evening, and I will not continue to elaborate, but I
 19 would like to underscore the important areas: Emphasis on
 20 water conservation for the CALFED process, water metering.
 21 We stand in a community whose water is unmetered throughout
 22 all of California.
 23 LA is an outstanding example of water
 24 efficiency, and this comes from a veteran bike rider who
 25 took LADWP water in a vile three hundred sixty miles uphill,

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1 and for me to feel good about LADWP is pretty special, so
 2 I'd like to see less plumbing and more creation of new
 3 water. By that I mean conserved water. Thank you.
 4 MR. NYDAM: Good evening. My name is Ron
 5 Nydam. I'm an agricultural engineer for a private
 6 irrigation company just east of Modesto. Our company is
 7 involved in working directly with farmers to design and
 8 install new or renovated irrigation systems. Our goal as we
 9 design irrigation systems is to make sure that the crops
 10 receive an equal and uniform distribution of the water.
 11 Since the advent of the drip irrigation, most
 12 drip systems can reach up to ninety to ninety-five percent
 13 uniformity. Irrigation systems are not cheap. Growers are
 14 spending an average capital cost of eight hundred to twelve
 15 hundred dollars per acre for new irrigation systems, but
 16 these systems also give the farmers the tools that they need
 17 to be beneficial users of their water supply.
 18 As you travel California and view the valley's
 19 vineyards, orchards, and crops, you will see an ever
 20 increasing number of farms that have spent the capital costs
 21 to install drip or microirrigation. The 1998 irrigation
 22 survey in the Irrigation Journal reports over one point five
 23 million acres of California farmland being irrigated by drip
 24 or microspray methods. Conventional sprinklers combined
 25 with low flow irrigation cover fifty-five percent of

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1 California's total irrigated farmland. As a whole, farmers
 2 are making the steps to be responsible stewards of their
 3 God-given natural resources.
 4 While the changes in the irrigation practices
 5 of farmers in the Central Valley has made them better users
 6 of water, the key to the whole bounding economy of the
 7 valley has been the foresight of our forefathers. They
 8 developed an intricate system of reservoirs and canals. The
 9 water stored in these reservoirs is the heart of the valley
 10 economy. Not only is it the heart and soul of agriculture,
 11 but it is also billions of dollars' worth of businesses,
 12 jobs, and related services created by this industry.
 13 Reservoirs are a key instrument in harnessing
 14 nature's water resource so that it can later be used
 15 beneficially in order to sustain environmental habitats,
 16 fish species, drinking water, and farming practices.
 17 Reservoirs have also been very effective in preventing
 18 untold damage that result in cases of severe flooding.
 19 The cold hard reality that we face in
 20 California is that additional people moving into this state
 21 are going to require a portion of California's existing
 22 resources. If California continues to allow people to enter
 23 the state, we're left with few choices. One is to increase
 24 the efficiency by which we use our existing water resources.
 25 Another is to store up these resources so we can assure that

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1 they will be used in a beneficial way at a later time.
 2 Increasing our efficiency of water usage is an
 3 effective but limited solution. An increased efficiency
 4 will not solve California's water supply problems in the
 5 coming years. Over one point five million acres of
 6 irrigated acreage have been converted to drip irrigation and
 7 has not even come close to solving the water supply problems
 8 we are facing now.
 9 The only long-term solution that we will have
 10 is a truly positive effect -- that will have a truly
 11 positive effect on the current water situation is to
 12 increase water storage capacity.
 13 MR. WAYMIRE: Russ Waymire. I had a prepared
 14 speech, but I'd rather talk from the heart here, if I can.
 15 And I don't mean to be impolite to the folks, but I've been
 16 at some of these meetings, and I farm, and until today, I've
 17 never seen rice other than out of a Rice-a-Roni box before
 18 we got ready to eat it.
 19 This is raw rice. It looks a lot different
 20 than it comes out of the can. I have been upset at some of
 21 the hearings at how the miracle of life comes from seeds
 22 that have no life in them until we plant them in the land,
 23 we plant them in the ground, we put the right amount of
 24 water, we get the right yield from it. We don't eat all
 25 that food. We produce it for people to eat, but yet they've

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1 been successful portraying us as criminals. Folks, we need
 2 to rethink this. We are not criminals. We are working
 3 together.
 4 I produce pistachios. They start in a little
 5 seed like this. We plant them in a little tub. We nurture
 6 them for two years, then we plant them in the field. Seven
 7 years later we get a crop. I'm on a hundred-percent drip.
 8 We grow food for people to eat around the world. We need to
 9 work together.
 10 And I don't like what I hear that they portray
 11 us that us farmers want more water. We have given up over a
 12 million acre feet. We suggest we look at more storage so
 13 that we can accomplish the environmental goals and serve
 14 everybody's needs, but we are not advocating additional
 15 water storage solely for us. We are all supposed to get
 16 better together. Thank you.
 17 MR. TANNER: Hello. My name is Ernie Tanner.
 18 I'm a C.V.P. farmer. I'm a third generation. I also grow
 19 food like Mr. Waymire, and a lot of environmentalists here
 20 was saying that we need to get rid of the dams, but I have
 21 to remind them they are the beneficiaries. We are water
 22 users. They are the consumers of the water.
 23 And we have to decide if we are using three
 24 hundred gallons a day per person, and like the former
 25 speaker said fifteen point four million, multiply that up,

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1 then you add another nine hundred gallons a day to feed
 2 them. That's a lot of additional water. Somebody has got
 3 to go hungry.
 4 For my great-great-grandchildren, I don't want
 5 water rationing. We already have it in our city of Hanford,
 6 odd/even days. What's it going to be in twenty years? Are
 7 we not going to wash our cars? What's going to happen here?
 8 I love the fish too. I mean, we can all work together here,
 9 but I already do my part conserving water.
 10 I heard in earlier testimony that I spend a
 11 great deal of money on sprinkler irrigation. When it came
 12 to the end of the year, I had a hundred-thousand-dollar bill
 13 because I didn't use all of my water. I couldn't carry it
 14 over to the next year because the reservoir was full. I
 15 don't know what happened to my water, but I got charged for
 16 it.
 17 We do conserve water, but we need additional
 18 off-site storage. I hope you will consider this and we can
 19 have off-site storage so when we farmers conserve water, we
 20 can use it in the next year. Thank you.
 21 MR. VERBOON: Good evening. My name is Jim
 22 Verboon. I'm a farmer from Laden, California. That's in
 23 the middle part of the state that's in an area very close to
 24 where we've recently lost eight hundred thousand acre feet
 25 of water. That water was being productively used to grow

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1 food for the people of the state of California and the
 2 United States.
 3 Your charge, as I understand it, is to find a
 4 balance. Well, in the product that I've seen produced here
 5 doesn't have balance. It continues down the same road we've
 6 gone down the last twenty-five years, which is no new water
 7 development, large population growth, which adds to the
 8 water demand. Agriculture doesn't demand any more water.
 9 It hasn't used any more water in thirty years, yet we are
 10 getting blamed as the big water hogs. Nothing could be
 11 further from the truth.
 12 The environment of the San Joaquin Valley is
 13 drying up today because of that lack of leadership, the lack
 14 of foresightedness that our forefathers had when they built
 15 the state water project. If they had built the state water
 16 project in the Central Valley project with the environment
 17 in mind, as conscious as we are today, they wouldn't have
 18 built it the way they did.
 19 We can go back, and we have the ability to fix
 20 this problem, but it takes plumbing. The biggest problem
 21 that we have is we don't have enough stored water from the
 22 wet years to carry over to sustain the environment, to
 23 sustain the cities, and sustain the farms during the dry
 24 years.
 25 It's not rocket science. We can't continue to

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1 pump two hundred or between one and two million acre feet of
 2 water out of the underground of this state on average years.
 3 It will devastate not only the economy but the environment
 4 of the areas that are overdrafted.
 5 What I'm seeing here is a forsaking of the
 6 environment that currently exists from the Delta south for
 7 the central part of the state and the Delta. Please produce
 8 some balance. Thank you.
 9 MR. HILDEBRAND: My name is Alex Hildebrand.
 10 My daughter and I farm in the south Delta. She wants to be
 11 able to continue to do so when I'm gone.
 12 California's production of food must increase
 13 so that there's an adequate food supply for our
 14 grandchildren when we have twenty million more Californians
 15 to feed. In twenty-five years the food supply available on
 16 the world market will be greatly reduced due to world
 17 population growth and the lack of adequate water in many
 18 countries.
 19 We will sacrifice our children's future if we
 20 follow CALFED's plans to take land and water away from the
 21 production of food while a need for food is growing and also
 22 if we follow CALFED's plan not to just continue but to
 23 increase the unsustainable overdrafting and salinizing of
 24 Central Valley groundwaters, which is all that now gets us
 25 through drought years. And if we also accept CALFED's

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1 refusal to build a valley drain, without which we will
 2 gradually destroy the fertile south Central Valley farmlands
 3 that are essential to our food supply.
 4 CALFED must vigorously develop and pursue a
 5 plan to mitigate the impact of the state and federal
 6 projects on the watershed of the San Joaquin and Tulare
 7 basins. They must get started on the slow process of
 8 raising Bryant Dam, increasing storage in the Kings River
 9 watershed and elsewhere, and building a drain to convey to
 10 the ocean the salt that is imported into the south Central
 11 Valley by the CVP and the SWP.
 12 Until the drain is built, CALFED's plan must
 13 reduce the high salinity in the San Joaquin River that
 14 results from this importation of salt. This can be done, in
 15 part, by installing three types of barriers in the south
 16 Delta to stop and recapture and reexport the concentrated
 17 salt that drains into the river from the CVP service area.
 18 Instead of using the limited supply of high
 19 quality water from San Joaquin River tributaries to provide
 20 spring fish flows, spring flow is needed for fish between
 21 the Mendona pool and the south Delta should be provided with
 22 recirculated Delta water as has been previously proposed by
 23 the South Delta Water Agency, a model by DWR.
 24 CALFED has adopted plans for true Delta
 25 conveyance and south Delta water management without first

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1 analyzing the impacts and benefits and without involving and
 2 development of these plans the expertise and views of
 3 effected in Delta entities such as the Delta Protection
 4 Commission, the three Delta water agencies, the Delta
 5 counties, etcetera. Plan must be reconsidered with that
 6 involvement.
 7 There are twelve times as many people in
 8 California as there were when I was born. We didn't have
 9 any -- I'll quit.
 10 (A brief recess was taken.)
 11 MS. BADEN: Good evening. I'm Elaine Baden
 12 with California Canoe and Kayak. Although none of the
 13 points I want to make are new, I think they are important
 14 enough that they bear repeating.
 15 Our state has the largest and most complex
 16 plumbing system in the world. We already have more than
 17 fourteen hundred major dams in the state. These dams have
 18 led to the widespread devastation of California's
 19 environment and the decimation of the salmon fisheries in
 20 the Sacramento and American Rivers. The dams in this state
 21 have a combined capacity of forty-two million acre feet. I
 22 can't even imagine how much that is. We can and must use
 23 this water more efficiently.
 24 Millions of gallons of water is being lost to
 25 evaporation without serving a useful purpose, such as

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1 growing our food. Demonstration projects and innovative
 2 farmers have shown savings possible of up to twenty-five or
 3 even fifty percent while getting the same or higher crop
 4 yields. Those farmers who are conserving, I thank you. I
 5 applaud you.
 6 I'm wearing this silly little button that says
 7 "Conservation Works." I wear it because I believe it.
 8 Using technologies and methods available today, not just
 9 farmers but industries, cities can each reduce water use by
 10 thirty percent with no sacrifice of economic output or
 11 quality of life. Simply measuring and charging for water by
 12 volume greatly reduces waste. Installing water meters in
 13 the city of Sacramento would save as much water as produced
 14 by the proposed Auburn Dam on the American River.
 15 Building new or expanding existing dams and
 16 reservoirs will cause further environmental damage by
 17 flooding valuable land and habitat, removing the freshwater
 18 flows to keep our rivers, Delta, and Bay healthy. CALFED
 19 should not consider new or expanded dams, canals, or
 20 reservoirs until alternative solutions have been given a
 21 real chance to work, and taxpayers should not be asked to
 22 subsidize these expensive options. I thank you.
 23 MR. ABELE: J.R. Abele. I'm from Colusa
 24 County. I'm a grower. I'm kind of curious, does anybody
 25 ever come up here and say "I love it. You did a great job"?

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1 Don't get your hopes up. I'm not going to do that.
 2 I'm a grower. I raise almonds. I don't want
 3 to be condescending to anybody in the group, but some folks
 4 may not know what an almond is. It's a little nut, and it
 5 grows on a tree. I go and I plant these in an orchard. And
 6 generally speaking that orchard lasts about twenty-five
 7 years. And what I'm going to, in my circuitous way, address
 8 here is water storage.
 9 When I go to the banker and I say "Mr. Banker,
 10 I'm thinking of planting this orchard of almonds. Would you
 11 give me a loan?" And he says "Well, yeah, sure but do you
 12 have water?" And I said "Well I think I do," but maybe it
 13 turns out I don't. Do you think he'd give me the loan?
 14 Some of you own homes. How many of you own
 15 homes? Rhetorical question. Many of you. You went out and
 16 got a mortgage. I've bought a couple of homes in
 17 California. Everytime I went to my mortgage broker and if I
 18 were to say to him, "Hey, I got this nice little two-story
 19 house. It's beautiful. White picket fence, but I may not
 20 have water in five years, you think you'll give me a loan?"
 21 It's no different for me as a farmer. It's a real issue.
 22 So what I really want to address with you here
 23 is water storage. It is an important issue. And without
 24 some guarantees to agriculture, we're really at risk. And
 25 that's the other thing in your plan, you have a nice budget.

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1 My family moved here, and I still farm the
 2 same farm that we farmed in the 1880s. Now, that farm was
 3 dryland wheat. Irrigation in a mediterranean climate all
 4 get capitalized into the value of this land. Are you going
 5 to compensate me for the reduction in the value of that
 6 land? I doubt you would.

7 But the other thing I want you to know is I
 8 live right up the road here about an hour away. We farm
 9 about five hundred acres of almonds, and most of it has been
 10 subdivided into acre parcels. Right now there are about
 11 fifteen people living on it.

12 Now if my banker pressures me and I sell that,
 13 there's going to be two hundred people living on that land.
 14 So I guess if you consider the negative impacts of making
 15 one decision and seeing where that leads you, I hope you
 16 consider these thoughts. And thank you.

17 MR. MILLER: With no disrespect to the panel,
 18 my tax dollars pay your salaries, and I'd like to talk to
 19 the crowd here.

20 I'm a sixteenth generation North American. My
 21 family predates the constitution. I woke up at 6:00 o'clock
 22 this morning, and I turned on the TV to check the stock
 23 market and flipped past the House of Representatives and the
 24 Senate to see what they were doing, and the House of
 25 Representatives was debating milk pricing. And we had half

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1 Democrats, half Republicans on both sides of the issue.
 2 It was very fascinating for me to hear this.
 3 Basically the most interesting thing I learned is that if
 4 you want to be a dairy farmer, part of your milk pricing
 5 subsidy is based upon the distance you are from Eau Claire,
 6 Wisconsin. And I couldn't believe it. We live in this
 7 archaic system of subsidies. So if you want to be a dairy
 8 farmer in New Mexico, some of your subsidy you will get will
 9 be based upon the distance from New Mexico to Wisconsin
 10 based upon a law in the 1930s. We need change.

11 You guys have probably done a great job,
 12 judging from what I've seen. I've served on a panel like
 13 this down in the Bay Area, the Oakland Estuary Advisory
 14 Council. It's a tough job. You are not going to make
 15 anybody happy, but you probably work real hard at trying to
 16 make things work.

17 I'm a small businessman. I am a retailer.
 18 Now, no one -- no hand from heaven came down and said "You
 19 be a farmer, you be a farmer, Keith you be a retailer. We
 20 don't want you to be a farmer." I take responsibility for
 21 everything I do. I started in 1982 with two employees. Now
 22 I have forty full-time equivalents. I create jobs. I don't
 23 take any public subsidies. I pay nine layers of taxes. I
 24 am certainly not anti-farmer.

25 After hearing everyone talk tonight so far, I

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1 wish we could take off all of our silly badges. I think we
 2 could talk to each other a whole lot better that way.

3 I have a couple comments. I know no corporate
 4 farmers. I know no corporate farmers. The farmers I know
 5 are small farmers. They bring their produce to Jack
 6 London Square in Oakland every Sunday, and I buy from them.
 7 I know one farmer in the valley who grows two hundred acres
 8 of almonds, or as I like to call them almonds. None of
 9 them, as I know, are subsidized. We need water subsidy
 10 changes.

11 I pay metered water in Oakland. I think we
 12 need to have a better balance on how our water is charged
 13 and who pays for it. I need to say that I think that any
 14 new water storage project should be not subsidized, whoever
 15 needs the water should pay for it.

16 Lastly, two quick little things. This summer
 17 --

18 MR. ERICKSON: I'm Roy Erickson from Marin
 19 County, and I raise beef, sheep, and habitat for wildlife.
 20 The ranch has been in the family since 1897. My
 21 grandchildren, if they keep on farming, will be the fifth
 22 generation to operate the ranch. As a sheep and beef
 23 rancher, I rely on alfalfa hay and feed grains from the
 24 Central Valley, so I'm concerned about reducing water quotas
 25 for the Central Valley farmers.

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1 It seems logical to me that the increased
 2 storage capacity would be a part of the long range plan for
 3 CALFED. As our population continues to grow at a faster and
 4 faster pace, the need for more food and fiber to meet the
 5 needs of this increase in population also grows. Five years
 6 ago in the U.S.A. we were losing approximately four thousand
 7 acres of prime agricultural land every day to development.
 8 I have no idea how many acres that we are losing today.

9 As a means of conserving water, it doesn't
 10 seem like a sound way -- sound practice of conserving water
 11 by taking agricultural land out of production. It seems to
 12 me that increased water storage seems to be the main thing
 13 that we need to concentrate on. I think CALFED's mandate is
 14 to prepare a water plan that provides for the needs of
 15 people and food production as well as fish and wildlife.

16 I've been on the ranch since 1953, and my
 17 basic concern is preserving the open space and the beauty of
 18 the land. I have the title and the deed. I can sell the
 19 land anytime I want to, but do I have the right to desecrate
 20 the landscape? The landscape doesn't belong to me. The
 21 landscape belongs to everybody. That's a quote from Chief
 22 Seattle. Thank you.

23 MR. BUCARIA: Charles Bucaria. First of all,
 24 thank you very much for your patience over your sixteen
 25 hearings. You are doing a heck of a job as has CALFED in

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1 putting together this massive amount of technical
 2 information.
 3 I'm past conservation vice president for
 4 Federation of Fly Fishers, and I'm here flat out on the
 5 behalf of the fish. I can cite the two to four generations
 6 of Californians that I'm standing here as a result of,
 7 depending on which side of my family you look at, and say
 8 that we've done a lot of things in the way of exploiting the
 9 assets of this state, whether it's logging our forests,
 10 whether it's providing a Hetch Hetchy aqueduct, or whether
 11 it's putting in a state water project.
 12 The era of being able to go further west and
 13 exploit those resources is over, and now it's time for us to
 14 take look at what we have and say what sort of a state do we
 15 want California to be after we've left it. And it's that
 16 challenge that I think you who are younger in this panel
 17 need to be very conscious of because you are going to have
 18 to live with the decisions that are going to be made as a
 19 result of what CALFED does.
 20 My concern is that I don't believe you are
 21 going far enough. A farmer needs land in order to grow
 22 crops. A homeowner needs a place where he can get an
 23 adequate supply of drinking water and be able to have enough
 24 water to irrigate his landscape. Fish need enough water to
 25 live.

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1 During the development of our water project,
 2 we gave away a lot of our fisheries. If California's
 3 population is going to continue to grow as it is right now,
 4 we're going to have to have those places where we have the
 5 recreation available within reasonable distance of our urban
 6 areas that those urban areas are worth living in.
 7 Those are the things that I'd like you to
 8 consider seriously in your protections as you develop your
 9 plan, and the Federation is submitting its written comments.
 10 Thank you very much.
 11 MR. KOZLEN: Sandy Kozlen. I'm on the board
 12 for the Carmichael Water District. I also sit on the boards
 13 for the Sacramento Metropolitan Water Authority and the
 14 Sacramento North Area Groundwater Management Agency.
 15 Like to talk a little bit about some of the
 16 urban descriptions that are contained in the urban supply
 17 economic section seven of the EIR. It appears that what you
 18 are doing is using Carmichael's lowest daily usage, which I
 19 think is kind of deceptive.
 20 I think that the fact of the matter is it
 21 appears you are using four mgd for Carmichael's use. We
 22 actually have a peak of around twenty-five, an average
 23 around twelve, and in peak hours around thirty-two during
 24 the middle of the summer, so it really needs to show that
 25 there's this range. Urban districts bill for the middle of

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1 July plus two fires.
 2 In correcting that, it leads to the next -- we
 3 sit in the American River Basin, and the American River
 4 Basin is included in the Sacramento River area. It looks
 5 like there is lots of water, but the fact of the matter is
 6 that the American River Basin has two major cones of
 7 depression on either side of the American River, and the
 8 American River is a very challenged basin.
 9 And the population demographics is the third
 10 point, really need to have projections of population.
 11 Listing 1990 population statistics does not tell us where we
 12 are going and what we have to support.
 13 So if we take a look, the next point coming
 14 off the population demographics and what the American River
 15 Basin has to support is we're going to have a city that's
 16 gone arun from Vacaville to Tahoe from Chico to Merced.
 17 It's going to be the fourth major population area of the
 18 state of California. And that urbanization, I would like to
 19 say "Gee, the people aren't going to come," but they are
 20 going to be there. It's not a question build it and they
 21 will come, it's a question of if you don't build it, they
 22 are going to be here.
 23 I have some specific comments about basin
 24 management, but my time is short, so I just want to say that
 25 I feel strongly that -- I just came from a conference that

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1 Secretary Nichols was at and spoke on the fact that we are
 2 genuinely recognizing that groundwater and surface water are
 3 the same resource.
 4 And as we have laws for AB 3030s and other
 5 basin management facilities, we have to find a way to give
 6 the management activities the authority to actually
 7 designate the place of use for both surface and groundwater
 8 within the basins. We've got to eliminate some of the
 9 approval processes in order to get the efficiencies.
 10 MR. DEL CHIARO: My name is Larry Del Chiaro.
 11 I'm a third generation farmer in the Sacramento Delta. I
 12 would like to state that California farmers are
 13 conservationist and environmentalists. It's important to
 14 remember that California agriculture is the most
 15 ecologically efficient in the world. California agriculture
 16 is an environmental resource. We in ag provide wildlife
 17 with food, shelter, and habitat by our crop rotation. We
 18 could not have crop rotation if we had no water for our
 19 crops.
 20 A prime example of this is during the
 21 drought, my farming operation on Sherman Island was the last
 22 to receive fresh water, if there was any, and the first to
 23 receive the saltwater intrusion. I saw my farm income
 24 suffer, but I also saw the wildlife habitat suffer. Without
 25 any crop rotation, wildlife would not be able to survive, so

1 I'm asking you and telling you, please provide more water
2 for agriculture, protect the lands that we farmers survive
3 on because we couldn't be third-, fourth-, fifth-,
4 sixth-year generation farmers if we destroyed the land that
5 we raise our crops on and our families. Thank you.

6 MR. CASEY: My name is Jim Casey. I'm with
7 the Osborne Company. We're distributors of Grundfos Hot
8 Water recirculating pumps primarily used in new homes.
9 These pumps benefit conservation, as well as comfort, by
10 recirculating water and not wasting the water which would
11 normally go down a drain. This is attached to the water
12 heat and basically pumped to the farthest fixture and
13 returned, so this water is not wasted when you turn the
14 fixture on.

15 The commercial buildings in California using
16 millions of gallons daily and projected housing starts at a
17 hundred seventy-two thousand. Demand for cost-effective
18 conservation devices will increase.

19 These hot water circulating pumps, mine and
20 others, can save an average home twelve thousand to
21 thirty-eight thousand gallons annually, depending on the
22 size and length of the pipe.

23 Based on CALFED's program as it has been
24 described, I would like to address the water use efficiency
25 patrol and the integrated water management bundle and how

1 County. The fears I have of the CALFED program is that we
2 are not going to have enough water for agriculture, and I
3 feel that it's going to be diverted to the Bay-Delta
4 ecosystem. I think that will take priority over every other
5 user in California. Cities will come in second. I think
6 agriculture will come in third.

7 As you all know, California is the nation's
8 number one supplier of food and fiber, providing forty
9 percent of the nation's food and fiber. In Merced County
10 alone, it provides one point two billion to the county
11 economy.

12 And what I see happening is if we don't have
13 more surface water storage on a dry year, agriculture is
14 going to suffer. Agriculture cannot go boom or bust. It's
15 a business like any other business, and if you take one or
16 two years with no water, ag is going to disappear. I'm
17 going to disappear when I can't provide services for ag
18 which won't be there. Other service providers throughout
19 the county will disappear also.

20 From Redding to Bakersfield I envision a giant
21 desert because everything will disappear if ag disappears,
22 and that's what I'm really afraid of. I feel that we have
23 to guarantee agriculture a reliable supply of water so they
24 can plan from year to year what they are going to do.

25 In Trinity County the lumber industry was shut

1 this can play a part.

2 Under the umbrella of urban conservation, the
3 hot water recirculation could be included as an effective
4 water management tool that can increase the utility of
5 available supplies. Hot water recirculation is a means to
6 reduce water waste by also providing better use of water and
7 at the same better comfort by constantly circulating hot
8 water, taps and showers offer immediate hot water on demand.

9 Next I'd like to address the integrated water
10 management bundle. This includes actions that can lead to
11 improvements in the water supply reliability and flexibility
12 through improvements in use efficiency. Hot water
13 recirculation can be referenced here as an effective tool to
14 improve water use.

15 As previously mentioned, hot water recirc
16 pumps reduce the waste of water in taps for showers and
17 sinks. In addition, by attaching to the hot water heater,
18 the pumps enable household appliances to work more
19 efficiently by reducing the amount of energy normally used.

20 We suggest that hot water recirc be included
21 in these programs, and we are eager to work with CALFED to
22 make this happen.

23 MR. NOBLE: Hello. I'm Dennis Noble. I'm
24 from Merced. I'm on the board of directors for the Merced
25 County Farm Bureau. I'm also a crop duster in Merced

1 down because of environmental regulations, and something
2 that happened in Trinity County was that the divorce rate
3 skyrocketed, juvenile crime skyrocketed, the entire area was
4 devastated because you took the economy away. What will
5 happen in the Central Valley when you take away the economy?
6 I think you should take into review on your Environmental
7 Impact Report what will happen to the people that rely on
8 agriculture. Thank you.

9 MR. ERLANDSON: I'm Lloyd Erlandson from
10 Merced County. Very short statement to make. I would like
11 very much consideration of additional storage for the
12 environment. I'm a farmer. I have almonds in the
13 Modesto/Turlock Irrigation District. The need for water is
14 gonna increase in California. With an increase in
15 population, there's no way you can get around it.

16 Environment needs to be protected. I provide
17 habitat along with food for people to eat. So my concerns
18 are the storage situation. Thank you very much.

19 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: I'm Duane Chamberlain from
20 Yolo County. I'm a farmer. I want to emphasize one thing:
21 Storage, storage, storage. I don't see how you can possibly
22 run this thing without more storage. If we didn't have the
23 storage in the state that we have now, where would we be.

24 I live on the west side of the valley.
25 There's no streams that runs year-round naturally. Also the

1 flood control is a major factor of storage. If we didn't
2 have the big reservoirs and lakes that we have, the flooding
3 we had a couple years ago right here where we are in
4 Sacramento used to have incredible flooding problems until
5 the big dams and reservoirs were built.

6 Also the reservoirs provide massive habitat.
7 I have a ranch in Glenn County out in the hills, and there's
8 three lakes on it. And if you go out there today, that's
9 the only place there's any wildlife on that ranch, unless
10 you like to see grasshoppers jumping around in the grass
11 because that's all that's out in the open fields. But
12 around the lakes there's ducks, there's all kinds of fish,
13 and everything.

14 Also I think that we need to clean these
15 waterways. I have friends that live on the Sacramento River
16 just north of here that tell me that the river is eight to
17 ten feet shallower today than it was twenty years ago.
18 These are people that fish and live there. Are you going to
19 let these rivers silt up until the silt is clear to the top
20 of the levees?

21 I have major problems in my own ranches
22 with the silting up coming down out of the mountains and
23 stuff. This is a natural thing that happens. This is how
24 we have the topsoil in the valley that's happened through
25 thousands of years is the buildup, but by building

1 further, and I see you are considering the environmental
2 effects that have been going on for the last hundred years
3 or more. We need to continue on in conservation and
4 efficiency.

5 North central urban areas need to look into
6 doing the water meters. When people have to pay more for
7 their water, they conserve. My next-door neighbor watered
8 for six days last week. I guess maybe he was on vacation.
9 I don't know. If he had a water meter he probably wouldn't
10 do that. A big deal has been made how LA has conserved and
11 they are down to a hundred fifty gallons per person. On the
12 other side of my family, my father grew up in Nevada. They
13 were accustomed to fifty gallons per person per day. That's
14 much less than LA even now, so certainly urban areas can
15 help with the water.

16 Sounds like some of the farmers here have been
17 conserving their use. I think we need to continue doing
18 that. I think we need to take some land out of production.
19 The land that is marginal or has great deal of minerals that
20 are causing problems in the south area we should take out
21 and it will not affect that much food production.

22 The water projects in the last thirty or forty
23 years have been paid by taxpayers, and we knew eventually
24 that the growth in urban areas would be using more and more
25 of that water. Now farming is getting squeezed because

1 reservoirs and controlling this we can stop some of this
2 silting.

3 Other thing I'd like to mention is down in the
4 Delta. I would like to not see any farmland taken out of
5 production. State of California also already owns half or
6 the federal government in the state already own half of the
7 land in the state, virtually no agriculture production
8 happens on this land. In fact, all you have to do is drive
9 along our highways and see how well the state maintains the
10 weed control. The state doesn't take very good care of its
11 land at all, as far as I'm concerned.

12 Lastly, I would just like to say thank
13 goodness for the people that in the past have built the
14 reservoirs and lakes and levee systems that we have. We
15 have an incredible system, and I think those people need to
16 be commended for what they've done, and we need to carry on
17 and continue this same thing forward. Thank you.

18 MR. RICE: Hello. I'm Ian Rice. On my
19 mother's side, fourth generation Californian to continue
20 that.

21 In general I think CALFED is going in the
22 right direction. The cooperation that does seem to be going
23 on does seem better than the lawsuits that were going on
24 before. I think the conservation is good, looks like you
25 are going the right direction there. I think we need to go

1 urban areas need it. I see that is something that we've
2 grown accustomed to and I'm afraid that some farmers
3 consider that an entitlement. When society finally decides
4 they need the water, we need to make some sort of
5 arrangements there. I think that we should be looking at
6 conservation first, then looking into additional storage.

7 I know we have an immense system of dams in
8 this state. Occasionally I talk to people around here in
9 Sacramento, and I challenge them: Name all the reservoirs
10 in fifty miles. They can name two or three. There's many
11 more than that. They have no idea how big this system is.
12 I think we should look at those dams. We should be looking
13 that much further down the line. We should be looking at
14 the groundwater uses first.

15 And lastly on the environment I see some
16 problems in the assurances but no guarantees. I know it was
17 one of the main missions of CALFED. I really hope it's
18 there. I'm not absolutely certain by myself.

19 MR. RUHNAME: Good evening. I'm Steve Ruhnam,
20 a resident of El Dorado County and formerly a resident of
21 thirsty Southern California. I'm also a fisherman and a
22 boater, a water skier, white water kayaker, consumer of
23 agricultural products, including too many almonds or
24 almonds, and I use the well water on my land so water is
25 surrounding me all the time so I greatly appreciate the

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1 opportunity to talk to you about water policy.
 2 If I was your boss, and I guess in a way I am,
 3 and I wanted to make a decision about CALFED's preferred
 4 program plan, I wouldn't be happy right now because I have
 5 forty-five pounds of obfuscation that I probably can't prune
 6 real good information out of, and then I've got marketing
 7 literature, which is really pushing a program or plan, and
 8 what I would want, if I was your boss, is something that's
 9 more of a synthesis of the salient characteristics and
 10 points and information that everybody is bringing up in this
 11 room tonight, and I'm sure at other hearings, that really
 12 represents a more unbiased view of what the issues and
 13 principles are. I'd like to see something about where the
 14 water really goes in thin documentation, not in the
 15 forty-five pounds of obfuscation.
 16 If I'm like one of the ecosystem quality
 17 folks, which I am, I value that very strongly, I view this
 18 plan, as I look at it, I don't know if it's your plan or
 19 your plan perspective, but I view it as a way of just
 20 wrapping dam building and canal building behind ecosystem
 21 quality. I saw the video, and it's ducks flying and all
 22 sorts of nice birds and animals, but it doesn't strike me as
 23 ecosystem quality at all. It's dam building, canal
 24 building. And if your objective is different, then be a
 25 little bit more objective when you present information to

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1 the public. That's what they deserve.
 2 If I'm a taxpayer, I'd rather pay my hundred
 3 dollars -- well, first of all, I'd rather not pay any more
 4 taxes, but if I had to pay more taxes, I'd rather pay my
 5 taxes not for a hundred dollars more of concrete in a dam to
 6 blow the something that I treasure greatly. I'd rather pay
 7 my hundred dollars for subsidizing farmers to realize that
 8 big time water savings that we had quoted in your video with
 9 new irrigation techniques were used, great water restoration
 10 mechanisms that we heard about tonight. That's where I'd
 11 like to see my tax dollars go, not to more concrete and
 12 damming up our water resources.
 13 MR. COMBS: Good evening, panel. My name is
 14 Elvey Combs. I'm a consultant in life support systems in
 15 aquaculture. I'm an eight-generation Californian and about
 16 a fourteenth-generation America and Vietnam vet.
 17 I'd like to touch some of the major points
 18 before I -- on the question/answer I talked about
 19 infrastructure, the need for a sewer system for the Sierras,
 20 the drainage surface water aquifer type situation. We have
 21 to separate potable water from our sewer systems. We are
 22 using our rivers and streams for sewer systems.
 23 I have an example here of a pollutant. It's a
 24 known carcinogen. And when you do make projects, you have
 25 to get MSDSs on public works projects. This is an MSDS.

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1 It's also excessive or prolonged breathing this material may
 2 cause central nervous system damage. I had like to quote a
 3 little eco toxicity point: This material may be toxic to
 4 aquatic organisms and should be kept out of sewage and
 5 drainage systems and all bodies of water. Environmental
 6 fate, no data available. Can you guess? It's asphalt.
 7 It's one of the largest pollutants we have.
 8 Now in our state also another point is it
 9 takes seventeen shots inoculations by law for our children
 10 to enter the school system. The average, I understand, for
 11 the nation is thirty-three. Our environment is getting more
 12 toxic.
 13 Most layman, most people have no idea what the
 14 parameters of water testing is all about. Even the jar
 15 right there there's a bacteria you can't sanitize or
 16 sterilize, I mean, plastic. You can do glass, but you can't
 17 do plastic. So there are bacteria counts in those. They
 18 are not being tested, and they are paying more than the
 19 price of a gallon of gas.
 20 Water costs will go up. People can get their
 21 water, but they are going to pay more. You will be
 22 converting more saltwater because freshwater is limited in
 23 its resource.
 24 So we have to separate potable water. I think
 25 it's important. There's many other points going on I'd like

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1 to take more time, but I'll end it here and give you a copy
 2 of this. This is from Chevron. It's a ten-page MSDS.
 3 MR. GREBER: My name is John Greber. I am a
 4 rancher here in Sacramento County out in the Franklin area.
 5 The one problem I really see with this is the storage
 6 problem.
 7 As a rancher, I know that the years that I've
 8 made some income, which I guess you will call those wet
 9 years, if I don't save some of that money, let me tell you,
 10 those drought years will eat me right up and I'm going to be
 11 out of business and I don't think the water system in the
 12 state is going to be any different. If we don't look
 13 forward and keep water in reserve in the bank, times are
 14 going to get lean eventually. We are not always going to
 15 have this, so we do need to look forward.
 16 One other quick comment would be let's try to
 17 keep some common sense into the plan. I live out next to a
 18 wildlife refuge. I see how the government is managing the
 19 wildlife refuge. Sometimes it's laughable. The locals keep
 20 saying the birds and the wildlife come over to the private
 21 grounds to get their food.
 22 Years ago we told them when they first went
 23 out there to continue cattle grazing. They said we were
 24 deadly wrong. Seven, ten years later they found out they
 25 need to graze cattle out there. If we don't take a

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1 common-sense approach to the water plan, it's also what's
 2 going to happen. Down the road we will find out that, gee,
 3 something we should have figured out a long time ago is
 4 here.

5 So we just need to look ahead, try to plan. I
 6 know sometimes it's hard to plan for the future, but I
 7 suspect it's going to come up, and we are going to need that
 8 storage water. Thank you.

9 MR. ELLIS: Yes. I'm Tom Ellis, a grower from
 10 southern Colusa County, and I've lived there all my life.
 11 As a farmer, the idea of taking water away from agriculture
 12 and fallowing land is of great concern to me. It makes me
 13 think we take our abundant and affordable food supply for
 14 granted, which is easy to do when you go to the local
 15 supermarket and see the wide variety of food displayed so
 16 beautifully.

17 California is in a position as a supplier of
 18 most of the specialty crops and many of the staple food and
 19 fiber items the U.S. and many foreign countries rely upon.
 20 Our Central Valley is blessed with a temperate climate, very
 21 good soil, and a high quality water supply. Couple this
 22 with progressive farmers, good farm workers, good processing
 23 of transportation infrastructure, supported by the UC and
 24 state college ag programs and the corporate extension
 25 service, and the result is a vibrant, productive food

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1 machine.

2 Our water supply is the result of pioneers
 3 seeing the potential in the land, if only the devastating
 4 flooding could be controlled. They developed levees to keep
 5 the rivers within their channels and bypass type flood
 6 control systems that could handle peak flows during severe
 7 winter storms.

8 Prior to doing this, our valley was nearly
 9 unfit for human habitat except in the dry years. Then they
 10 realized a great amount of the water flows could be saved as
 11 storage was developed: Several dams were constructed saving
 12 water for summer irrigation. And I can remember when Shasta
 13 Dam was built, the Bureau of Reclamation begged farmers to
 14 contract for its use, the use of that water, so farmers went
 15 ahead, they contracted for it, invested in their lands,
 16 distribution systems, and now you are talking about taking
 17 it away. It sounds like betrayal to me.

18 The real concern is the threat to our food
 19 supply resulting from governmental action. You and CALFED
 20 are trying to take our water away and fallowing land. BPA
 21 with its actions restricting the use of pesticides, the Food
 22 Quality Protection Act and its ramifications. What else is
 23 going to come up?

24 I think it's unwise for a nation to become
 25 dependent upon importing its food. Currently we have a very

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1 safe food supply produced under stringent conditions,
 2 especially here in California. You may not know the
 3 cultural practices of foreign producers: What pesticides
 4 are they using? What are their fertilizer sources? What
 5 are their irrigation water sources? Are these imports
 6 subject to the same close scrutiny as our production? As a
 7 consumer, I think I would be very concerned.

8 You couple all of these items with the
 9 challenges to our water rights, the Endangered Species Act,
 10 urban sprawl encroaching on our farmland, and one begins to
 11 wonder what future we farmers, our farm workers, and the
 12 entire ag business community has.

13 CALFED officials be very careful in your
 14 decisions. Your irreversible and irretrievable conversion
 15 of thousands of acres of farmland will have a devastating
 16 impact. They say it's for the fish today. What will it be
 17 tomorrow?

18 MR. JESSWEIN: Good evening. My name is Gail
 19 Jesswein, and I was born and raised on a farm, so I
 20 understand the concerns of the farmers, but I think the
 21 subject I'm going to raise has some of the same concerns.
 22 I'm going to present the comments of the Recreational
 23 Boaters of California. Recreation and boating is a concern.
 24 I'm a director of RBOC. I'm also a member of the Delta
 25 Yacht Club and a boater who has enjoyed the Delta for many

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1 years.

2 RBOC is a nonprofit organization that works on
 3 behalf of forty thousand boating families to protect and
 4 enhance the interests of recreational boating as they would
 5 be impacted by the state legislation and regulations. As a
 6 statewide organization, we recognize the importance of the
 7 CALFED program in the development of long-term solutions to
 8 the water needs of California and to the protection of the
 9 valuable Delta environment and resources.

10 At the same time the recreational boating
 11 community has several serious concerns with the draft
 12 problematic EIS/EIR for the CALFED Bay-Delta program.
 13 Enclosed with this letter -- for the record, our letter is
 14 from two hundred and forty-two individual boaters who are
 15 troubled by the negative impacts that the program would have
 16 on boating.

17 To date the efforts being conducted by fifteen
 18 state and federal agencies has not sufficiently considered
 19 the impacts that the programs would have on recreational
 20 boaters in the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta and the San
 21 Francisco Bay.

22 We request that recreation boaters be included
 23 as stakeholders and that the program include measures that
 24 mitigate the negative impacts on boating. Boaters cannot
 25 embrace the proposed preferred program alternative until a

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1 number of critical issues are addressed, the impacts
 2 assessed, and the mitigations decided upon for the following
 3 issues: Navigation in the Delta and Bay, including
 4 restrictions on speed and channel barriers; water currents,
 5 flows, and speed; boating-related facilities, including
 6 pump-out stations and gray water disposal; businesses that
 7 rely on boaters as customers, and there's three or four
 8 other items here that will be in -- that's in the
 9 presentation.

10 In addition a percentage of funds for the
 11 CALFED program should be set aside for the preparation and
 12 implementation of a master plan for recreational boating
 13 that is developed by representatives of the recreational
 14 boating stakeholders.

15 It's important that the CALFED process
 16 recognize and incorporate the findings of the Department of
 17 Boating and Waterways studies regarding levee erosion,
 18 vessel traffic, and boating needs assessment to determine
 19 prime aquatic recreational boating areas to be protected.
 20 We are very concerned that the draft problematic BIS/EIR
 21 fails to adequately address these critical issues.

22 As boaters we cannot support the proposed
 23 preferred program unless there are mitigations that ensure
 24 that the ability of recreational boaters to enjoy the Delta
 25 are augmented. Boaters must have the full --

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1 MR. RYDAHL: My name is Floyd Rydahl. I'm a
 2 very small farmer in Stanislaus County, which is by Modesto.
 3 In fact, I'm such a small farmer I'm an endangered species.
 4 And unfortunately nobody is concerned about it except my
 5 wife, and she's biased. She loves me.

6 The Fish and Game -- I guess I'm through.
 7 Even the Fish and Game are not really concerned, mainly
 8 because I'm not a fish nor am I a kangaroo rat, but all I
 9 really want is my land and especially my water.

10 But I am -- as I've gone through much of the
 11 literature, you've put out forty-six hundred pages, far
 12 beyond my ability to read during the commercials, but I am
 13 appalled at what I see in there of taking my -- I'm not
 14 going to shut up. That you are taking my freedoms from me,
 15 real freedoms I see evaporating, and especially my right to
 16 own and control private property. With a bit of a pen, you
 17 take it away from me.

18 Now, I really wonder at times if all of this
 19 is legal, and I would highly suspect that it might even be
 20 unconstitutional what you are trying to do, but I guess with
 21 the present administration why it's perfectly all right.

22 I feel you need to go back to square one.
 23 That the real purpose you should have started with is to get
 24 more water for California, to get more good water so that
 25 the people and the economy can grow as the state grows.

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1 And I am, again, appalled at in your forty-six
 2 hundred pages there was nothing addressing upstream storage
 3 of the good water. That is basically what we need. We need
 4 to conserve the water that we are now losing. We are only
 5 using six percent and collecting and using for agriculture
 6 and other businesses, but we need upstream storage, whether
 7 it be more reservoirs, I don't care what you call it.
 8 Shasta, raise it thirty feet. Let's do the job right.

9 So let's address the problems, let's take care
 10 of it, let's do it. Let's do it for our children and for
 11 our unborn children. Thank you.

12 MR. BEENE: Good evening. My name is Britt
 13 Beene. I'm an almond and walnut grower in Merced County.
 14 I'm also second vice chair of the California Young Farmers
 15 and Ranchers state committee, and before I go into my
 16 prepared notes, I want to make one comment.

17 A younger woman was here earlier, and she said
 18 that agriculture was taking water away from the environment
 19 or taking it away from the ecosystem, but my farm is an
 20 ecosystem. My groves are an ecosystem. My walnut trees in
 21 the fields are an ecosystem that are thriving with different
 22 species of bugs, birds, weeds, and everything else, and
 23 that's not considered sometimes when we think about it that
 24 I do actually farm an ecosystem and I make my living from
 25 that ecosystem and other people make their living from that

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1 ecosystem too.

2 My great-grandfather came here from Oklahoma.
 3 He farmed in Selma, California. He came out here because he
 4 didn't have adequate water and fertile topsoil in Oklahoma.
 5 And just like my great-grandfather, I farm too. It's four
 6 generations now.

7 Things have changed a lot since my
 8 great-grandfather was around. I use things like integrated
 9 pest management to conserve my natural enemies that attack
 10 pests in my orchards, things like predators and parasites, I
 11 use them. I'm using Mother Nature to help me grow my crops
 12 and to manage my crops. I'm using evapotranspiration and
 13 soil and moisture measurement to help predict when I need to
 14 put on irrigation water and do it in a timely fashion and an
 15 efficient way that saves as much water as I can.

16 I do things like take soil tissue analysis or
 17 soil and tissue analysis to predict the fertility use I need
 18 to know if I need to put fertilizer on or if I need to put
 19 amendments on or if I don't. I don't want to put too much
 20 out there. I'm paying for it, and I also don't want to
 21 pollute the environment.

22 I do all of these things, but still I don't
 23 have the ultimate control of my place. I don't have the
 24 ultimate control of growing that crop if I don't have water
 25 to produce that crop. If I don't have water, if we don't

1 have water, we won't be there, and it will take everything
2 away from us that we have worked for for four generations,
3 for five generations or for ten or fifteen generations. We
4 have to have water, and we have to have it in an abundant
5 flow, and we have to have storage, and we have to have it
6 reliable, too, to us. Thank you.

7 MR. STONE: Thank you. Casey Stone, Yolo and
8 Solano County farmer and cattle rancher. One of the things
9 that concerns me the most about this plan is that it pits
10 the environmental community and fish against the farmers.
11 And I think that there is -- we have more in common than
12 often not on this particular issue.

13 I've been to some meetings recently where
14 they've done projections on what this state's population is
15 going to be like by the year 2100 and they are estimating
16 anywhere between seventy and one hundred million people in
17 this state. That's three times where we are today, with
18 projections of the valley floor being paved seventy percent.
19 If you think that we're going to solve our problems with
20 conservation reconveyance and groundwater storage, I think
21 you are sadly mistaken and we are very shortsighted.

22 Three hundred seventy million dollars is not
23 enough to consider the storage options. These don't have to
24 be large storage projects, that seems to be the direction
25 that you folks are looking at. There's a lot of private

1 wool producer from Lincoln, California, in Placer County.
2 I'm also state recorder for the California Young Farmers and
3 Ranchers, and I'd first of all like to state on behalf of
4 all California Young Farmers and Ranchers that we strongly
5 support Farm Bureau's position on the proposed plan. I also
6 echo all of the concerns that have been raised here in my
7 operation and the future viability of that operation.

8 But in addition to being a young producer, I'm
9 also a consumer, and as such, I'm very concerned about the
10 adverse impact this plan may have on our food supply, both
11 in terms of quantity and quality.

12 Thanks to our farmers and ranchers, we
13 presently enjoy an abundant food supply that is without
14 question the safest and most affordable in the world. The
15 level of idling and conversion of prime farmland under this
16 plan worries me. With our rapidly growing population, any
17 increase in agricultural production here will need to be
18 made up somehow but from where? Imports?

19 Any move towards increased reliance on food
20 that is produced under unknown or lesser standards carries,
21 I believe, significant and unacceptable risks. I want my
22 food produced domestically under our strict standards with
23 minimal chemical inputs, clean water, and so forth.

24 The plan document acknowledges what it calls
25 irreversible and irretrievable conversion of hundreds of

1 individuals up and down some of these mountain ranges that
2 have ranches that would be willing to put in small,
3 one-to-two-thousand-acre-foot storage facilities. I think
4 if you look for that type of option, you will find plenty of
5 takers.

6 I'd also like to touch on a brief point that
7 was brought up by Mr. Chamberlain that hasn't been brought
8 up much tonight and that's the issue of public safety with
9 regards to your levee protection plan.

10 The taxpayers in the state seem to have
11 short-term memory when it comes to flooding. We just went
12 through back-to-back massive one-hundred-year flood events
13 in the last three years. Any levee reinforcement that's
14 going to be done or any plan that's going to cover this has
15 to take dredging into account. These rivers have not been
16 maintained. That's the reason we have a lot of these flood
17 issues.

18 I understand the environmental community has a
19 lot of problems with this, but this is the simple solution
20 to a lot of these flooding problems. The river bottoms are
21 now higher than the levees. That's the only way you are
22 going to solve that problem. You can't have it save
23 endangered species if they are all under water. Thank you.

24 MS. WISWELL: Good evening. My name is
25 Barbara Wiswell. I'm a sixth generation beef, lamb, and

1 thousand of acres of prime and unique farmland. CALFED must
2 minimize these farmland losses.

3 Urbanization is already reducing our
4 productive land at an alarming rate. Why would we
5 accelerate one resource crisis in the name of solving
6 another resource crisis? It is a classic case of robbing
7 Peter to pay Paul, that will catch up with us eventually in
8 the form of food supply, quantity, quality, and
9 affordability risks. Thank you very much.

10 MR. SCHWARTZ: Good evening. I'm Gerald
11 Schwartz. I farm in this county, and our family has for the
12 past half century or so. In 1952 most of us were pretty
13 young kids. That's about forty-seven years ago. That's the
14 same year that three agriculture districts in the east side
15 of this county were formed on the pretense of getting
16 surface water for agriculture. To date we haven't gotten
17 any. I've served on that board for about a decade and we've
18 had to turn many a grower away because we cannot get surface
19 water, while at the same time noting that we're losing our
20 groundwater at the rate of about a foot a year.

21 When I was chairman of the Sacramento
22 Metropolitan Water Authority, which represented about a half
23 million people and seventeen member agencies, it was a
24 continuing struggle to look at how we would use the water,
25 how we would move it from agency to agency, if we would even

1 have enough. We have a shortage now, gentlemen. I think we
2 are just seeing the tip of the shortage.

3 Isn't it rather ironic too when we think about
4 it: Seventy percent or so of the California's water runs
5 through this county and yet we, agriculture, does not have
6 access to a large part of that, in some cases to no part of
7 it whatsoever.

8 I think the issue is not an issue of
9 agriculture wants more water, the people need more water.
10 Remember the people. Millions of people will be affected by
11 your decision, yet the program focuses on fish and wildlife
12 habitat. Many of the actions are designed to help fish, but
13 they will hurt people. Actions that take farmland out of
14 production will affect farmers, farm workers, truck drivers,
15 cannery workers, warehouse workers to name but a few, and
16 those who operate small businesses throughout California,
17 not to mention the consumer, the people who benefit from our
18 healthy locally-produced food.

19 The document relies on taking water away from
20 people through transference, conservation, and idling
21 productive, and I emphasize productive land. Instead of
22 subtracting from one group or use to provide for another, we
23 should add to the water supply to accommodate all of
24 California's needs.

25 CALFED needs to look seriously at new water

1 development.

2 Millions of dollars have been spent in recent
3 years over various types of conservation efforts from
4 low-flow plumbing fixture retrofit programs to public
5 information campaigns. Additionally, area agencies have
6 made substantial investments in the development of recycled
7 water and conjunctive use programs. An overwhelming
8 majority of these programs were designed with the primary
9 objective of reducing the region's reliance on imported
10 water supply.

11 We share many of the same concerns that
12 numerous water agencies and interests have expressed over
13 the last few weeks during the public review process of
14 CALFED's environmental documents. We believe the documents
15 provide no assurances whatsoever that issues vitally
16 important to urban water suppliers, primarily water quality
17 and supply reliability will be adequately addressed by the
18 preferred program alternatives.

19 While we truly believe in recent years
20 Southern California urban water agencies have demonstrated
21 their solid commitment to water use efficiency, the current
22 CALFED proposal lacks similar commitments. We can ill
23 afford to accept a plan of action for the Bay-Delta that
24 does not explicitly provide assurances to continuously
25 improve Delta water qualities which is essential to ensure

1 storage. Why? To meet the water and food needs of the
2 people of the state of California today and in future
3 generations. Remember, no water means no agriculture, and
4 no agriculture means no farmers, and no farmers means no
5 food.

6 Our forefathers who developed this water
7 system had a great vision. The question for us tonight is
8 do we have the foresight to sustain a reliable and a
9 quantity of water into future generations. Thank you.

10 MR. SABBE: Good evening. My name is Steve
11 Sabbe, and I'm a resource specialist for the Calleguas
12 Municipal Water District in Ventura County, California.

13 Calleguas is a wholesale water supplier
14 providing water service to over half a million residents
15 within the cities of Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Camarillo
16 Moorpark, and Oxnard. Calleguas is a member agency of the
17 Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and as
18 such, has a vested interest in the resolution of the
19 Bay-Delta issues.

20 Historically the district has been entirely
21 reliant upon deliveries of state water to meet service area
22 demands. However, over the last decade, Calleguas, along
23 with other water management agencies throughout Southern
24 California, has made significant and unprecedented progress
25 in the areas of conservation and alternative supply

1 compliance with future drinking water standards and enable
2 cost-effective water recycling programs.

3 As such, we urge an incorporation of specific
4 implementation actions in the record of decision that will
5 ultimately result in the achievement of water quality
6 targets for total dissolved solids, bromide, and total
7 organic carbons of two hundred fifty and three milligrams
8 per liter respectively.

9 With respect to supplier liability, we feel
10 it's imperative that capacity in the Banks Pumping Plant be
11 fully expanded to ten thousand three hundred cubic feet per
12 second by the end of stage one. Moreover, we seek a no
13 surprise regulatory policy to eliminate the current
14 regulatory-induced uncertainties and ensure no additional
15 losses of water supply. Specific commitments to these
16 elements should also be included in the record of decision.

17 As for the allocation of costs to the various
18 components of CALFED's solution, they must be equitable. To
19 receive support from municipalities of Calleguas service
20 area, CALFED must clearly demonstrate, by the time of the
21 record of decision, that stage one and long term actions
22 provide a beneficial value for those who are asked to pay.

23 Lastly, our perception is that all parties
24 realize that the CALFED process is the best and perhaps last
25 opportunity to develop a truly comprehensive equitable

1 solution for the Bay-Delta region.
 2 MR. SANGUINETTI: Good evening. My name is
 3 Paul Sanguinetti. I'm a fourth Californian farmer. I've
 4 lived here all my life, and I consider myself a true
 5 environmentalist and conservationist. In our operation,
 6 that's the only way you survive. Maybe you think that
 7 everybody can be a farmer, that's not true. Some people are
 8 brain surgeons. Some people are computer operators. In my
 9 classification this is what the Lord figured that I should
 10 be is a farmer.

11 It takes a certain talent to take that seed
 12 that the gentleman was here a while ago presenting to you,
 13 plant that seed, and to make it grow into something that can
 14 be utilized by others. My part of that job is to cultivate
 15 that seed and protect that plant, and not everybody has that
 16 ability to do that, so I disagree with a lot of these
 17 conservationists that they are not. They are so-called, but
 18 they don't really do what they preach.

19 The other issue I'd like to address that I
 20 think hasn't been addressed in this whole process is the
 21 groundwater banking. I feel that there's a flaw -- a pretty
 22 good flaw in your perception that you can bank the water and
 23 then, I guess, take it out.

24 If the area is overdrafted and there's room to
 25 bank water in that area, that area needs the water that

1 lifelong California agriculturalists. My grandparents'
 2 farms are still in the family, although I am not involved in
 3 them. My farmland is not the subject of your considerations
 4 as theirs is, but I do know that wildlife, such as
 5 pheasants, ducks, geese, fox, rabbits, and deer depend on it
 6 for food and shelter. I know that other farmland under your
 7 consideration has its own unique environment which includes
 8 plants, animals, birds, fish that will be displaced by your
 9 interest to provide habitat for the fish of your choice.

10 Your efforts will also displace families who
 11 nurtured the land for generations and provide habitat for
 12 people as well as nonhuman species.

13 One look at the list of public agencies
 14 responsible for this process readily explains why you have
 15 not considered the people affected by your massive land
 16 retirement and why you consider it unavoidable. Your
 17 responsibility is to the fish and wildlife or environmental
 18 issues.

19 The CALFED needs federal and state
 20 representation from agencies that deal with humans, such as
 21 labor and education, or social services like Aid to Families
 22 with Dependent Children and Fair Employment and Housing.
 23 Your actions will negatively impact those agencies as you
 24 put farmers and farm workers out of jobs and displace those
 25 businesses in rural communities that depend upon

1 needs to be put back into that aquifer. If there isn't
 2 sufficient surface water for that area, they rely totally on
 3 the ground water.

4 So if the aquifer is not overdrafted and they
 5 have sufficient surface water, then there is a chance to use
 6 some of that aquifer to -- for other areas.

7 The problem is that all these aquifers need to
 8 be recharged. It takes six to eight months of every year,
 9 which is a very slow rate. The only way you are going to
 10 have water for six to eight months to recharge any type of
 11 an aquifer is storage, aboveground storage.

12 So my point is if the aquifer is in good
 13 shape, then you have to supply surface water because that's
 14 what they are using, not to claim the groundwater. If the
 15 aquifer is depleted, they don't have groundwater, they need
 16 to have surface water to replenish that aquifer so that they
 17 will have water in future years.

18 I hope that the decisions that this board
 19 makes are some that my future grandsons and family can say
 20 that these people made a very smart decision. It was
 21 because of them that they have a future. We've looked back
 22 in the past and said a lot of our forefathers made a lot of
 23 smart moves, and hope that this board is one of those boards
 24 that future generations can say the same things. Thank you.

25 MR. GOMES: My name is George Gomes. I'm a

1 agricultural enterprises.

2 You also need representation from county and
 3 local government who will not have the tax revenues to
 4 provide essential public services such as schools, police,
 5 fire, and health safety.

6 You fail to consider all causes of declining
 7 fish numbers by not addressing the fish taken by nonnative
 8 predators, offshore commercial fishing, and take from other
 9 wildlife. Had you considered these issues, your solutions
 10 would not have been so detrimental to the human inhabitants
 11 of the area under your study.

12 You also failed to consider the need to
 13 increase overall water availability for the growing
 14 population and the expanding environmental needs.
 15 Recognizing the need for additional water storage would have
 16 given you -- your alternatives additional credibility.

17 As has been said, more than half of this state
 18 is already in public ownership. We don't need to add to
 19 that if we need to take additional land for environmental
 20 purposes. Your thinking may be a perfect world without
 21 people, but that's not reality nor is it possible.

22 MR. BLODGETT: Thank you. Bruce Blodgett.
 23 After listening tonight to all of this testimony, the only
 24 conclusion that I can reach is that CALFED, as a process, so
 25 far has failed. Very simply. It's failed because it does

1 not provide additional water storage. It fails because it
2 does not protect water rights, and it has failed because it
3 provides a mechanism to retire two hundred and fifty
4 thousand or more acres of productive farmland in this state
5 without review and without public comment.

6 This farmland conversion proposed in the
7 CALFED proposal is worse than any development application
8 we've ever seen. And the reason it's worse than any
9 development application is simply: There's no opportunity
10 for public review. There's no opportunity for public
11 comment.

12 You haven't identified one of the properties
13 that you are targeting for acquisition. You need to start
14 that process. You need to start that process immediately.
15 You need to start identifying to those counties the lands
16 you are seeking to take out of production and off the tax
17 rolls. It's extremely important.

18 I have a personal interest. Family owns three
19 hundred and fifty acres in the Delta, Sutter Island. I need
20 to be able to plan for my future. Is this land going to be
21 in agriculture? I don't know. I don't know if this is
22 something that you already targeted or an island that you
23 already have targeted for acquisition. It's pretty
24 important for my future plans. It's pretty important for my
25 brothers and sisters who are also trying to plan for the

1 MR. TALMADGE: Good evening. My name is Gene
2 Talmadge. I'm here tonight to represent the interests of
3 our board of directors. I'm with Los Virgenes Municipal
4 Water District. We're a service area in western Los Angeles
5 County, and we are one-hundred-percent reliant on imported
6 water for all of our needs.

7 On of the things I must add. We've heard a
8 lot about conservation tonight. Right now we meet over
9 twenty percent of our water demand with recycled water. So
10 we've been able to put into effect an awful lot of
11 conservation programs to lessen the demand on imported
12 water.

13 In front of you I've placed a letter that our
14 board approved at their meeting last week. And I wanted to
15 highlight a couple of points. First off is the fact that we
16 are a hundred-percent reliant on imported water. We have no
17 sources of water in our area, either groundwater or surface
18 water, so we need everything to satisfy our needs needs to
19 come from someplace else.

20 But we have some significant concerns about
21 the water that is imported. First has to do with water
22 quality. Any movement of water through the Delta imposes
23 some significant problems in the disinfection process and
24 water quality issues for that water that is treated. So
25 we're concerned about the fact that the EIR does not

1 future.
2 Again, looking at development, we would rather
3 have a development proposal proposed for Sutter Island than
4 have the CALFED land acquisition because at least there
5 would be an opportunity for public comment, public review.
6 At least we would know who we need to talk to. Again, you
7 have not come forward and identified those lands that you
8 are targeting for acquisition.

9 I'll make it short. You've listened to a lot
10 of people. CALFED, again, has failed. It's failed because
11 this effort to protect the environment today does not plan
12 for California's future. Thank you.

(A brief recess was taken.)

14 MR. MARLER: Good evening. I'm James Marler.
15 I'm a farmer in Sutter County. And I have some great
16 concerns about some of the things that's proposed by CALFED.
17 As I've said here, I give great thanks to our forefathers
18 for their wisdom and to create the system that we have
19 today, and without the system that we have we wouldn't have
20 water for the people today.

21 And I just want to reiterate that we really
22 need to consider more storage not for agricultural but
23 environmental and for the future people of the state of
24 California, and it's very important that we have the water
25 storage. Thank you.

1 establish any water quality standards for water that is
2 exported from the Delta.

3 Second, there's no guarantee in the EIR/EIS
4 about funding facilities necessary for water supply and
5 water quality issues for exported water. Third, under
6 operational considerations, and we've heard some discussion
7 about that already tonight, that the shutdown of pumping
8 operations, especially during times of drought, is extremely
9 deleterious to water users to the south, both urban and
10 agricultural, because without any storage to make that up,
11 we're in dire straits.

12 Fourth has to do with water reliability. The
13 EIR and EIS does not address the impacts of delayed
14 decisions to develop new storage or conveyance facilities to
15 meet current and future needs. And this contingency is not
16 addressed in the EIR.

17 The balance of needs, we've heard a lot of
18 discussion about that. The EIR clearly defines
19 environmental standards to maintain fish stocks and other
20 environmental concerns, but does not establish or quantify
21 the same standards for urban and agricultural users in terms
22 of water quality supply and the like.

23 And the commitment to water conservation, I
24 indicated earlier that we meet an awful lot of our demand
25 through conserved water, but the EIR/EIS makes not

1 commitment or assurance of funding for further conservation
2 programs to reduce the overall demands and impacts on water
3 exported from the Delta.

4 But the final area of concern has to do with
5 one of the words we heard earlier, and that is the impact on
6 people.

7 MR. HILBERT: I'm Darrick Hilbert. I'm part
8 of the Gold Country Pallors. We have two hundred and fifty
9 people in our organization, and what I would like to see is
10 no more diversions or dams up in the upper watersheds, the
11 Sierra Nevada, and that's about it.

12 MR. HALL: Good evening. Your endurance is
13 commendable. The only one I feel sorrier for is my poor
14 newsletter editor who had to stay this long to take a
15 picture of her boss so he can prove to his board members
16 that he actually did wait long enough to make a statement.
17 I have written comments. I will submit them.

18 I want to note, too, that we have included
19 with our statement a letter signed by the business, labor,
20 and water organizations reflected on the letterhead here. I
21 think between the two you will find them reflective of the
22 comments that you've heard around the state regarding the
23 total sum package of the CALFED program.

24 I should note for the record that I am also a
25 member of CALFED's advisory council. I don't, by virtue of

1 conserve or build off-stream and groundwater storage, that
2 we somehow can't do both, that we can't both reclaim water
3 and create new supplies that aren't detrimental to the
4 environment, aren't representative of the mistakes that
5 we've made in the past in creating storage, but actually can
6 help the environment as well as water supply.

7 I believe, though I do find deficiencies in
8 the CALFED document, that the basic elements of a plan that
9 can do all that are there. That, in fact, if properly
10 implemented, the CALFED plan was so artfully crafted by the
11 staff that you could do just about anything you wanted to
12 do, which is why everybody reads the worst possible
13 conclusion.

14 Let me close by saying the people that I
15 represent have specific proposals on how to get to the goals
16 that we've laid out, and we're prepared to work with CALFED
17 in achieving them. Thank you.

18 MS. GIVEN: Hi. Good evening. Thank you for
19 staying up with us to hear our concerns. Suzanne Given.
20 I'm a lifelong California resident and a voting taxpayer,
21 and I've spent many weekends on the south, north, and middle
22 forks of the American River, the Klamath and Yuba Rivers and
23 the Russian Rivers as well, and even along the infamous
24 Putah Creek in Davis.

25 I know that spending a weekend in the outdoors

1 that, claim ownership of the document, though I do know
2 something about it because of my involvement.

3 CALFED really had two jobs. One was to bring
4 together all of the information necessary to develop a plan.
5 That was really a staff function. And I think that Lester
6 Snow and his staff did a commendable job in doing that. I
7 think the necessary information to develop and implement a
8 plan is there. The second part of the job was to develop a
9 plan that was implementable and met the objectives of
10 CALFED. And I have to say regretfully that the draft
11 document fails to do that.

12 Now, you've heard a lot of comments tonight
13 about the deficiencies of the document. I'm not going to
14 repeat them other than to say generally speaking that the
15 draft does fail to provide specifics on water supply and
16 water quality, and it does avoid commitments on surface and
17 groundwater storage and on conveyance improvements in and
18 around the Delta.

19 What I have to say as an observer of water
20 policy and a participant in water policy in California, I
21 despair a little bit in hearing the comments tonight. I
22 don't mean that as criticism of anybody. It's just that we
23 do seem intent as communities to fight the wars of the past,
24 the wars that CALFED was created to end.

25 It's as if we think that we either have to

1 is an excellent way to take a break from a busy week and yet
2 recharge for the following week, and also I've seen how
3 recreation has benefited the economy in these areas.

4 I encourage CALFED to move beyond yesterday's
5 technology of channelizing and damming rivers and on to
6 enforcing more rigorous water efficiencies and quality
7 standards. Surface water storage created from dams isn't
8 the only option of ensuring California's water supply. We
9 have reclaimed water and groundwater options as well, and I
10 encourage CALFED to increase funding for engineering
11 projects which improve these technologies.

12 I also encourage CALFED to invest on improving
13 the ecosystem health by restoring water quality, which
14 would, in turn, benefit human health. For that reason I
15 encourage California to invest aggressively in pollution
16 prevention and drinking water treatment, as well as water
17 conservation and efficiency and not consider new dams until
18 these solutions have been given a chance to work.

19 CALFED needs a pollution prevention program to
20 eliminate toxins, pesticides, and animal waste at their
21 sources, programs which allot reclaimed water to
22 agricultural needs to be funded as well. Water quality from
23 the Delta, San Francisco, and San Pablo Bay need to be
24 addressed and heavy funded as well.

25 I want future generations to have an

1 opportunity to enjoy the same rivers I have, enjoy restored
2 wetlands, and not separate from the toxicity of the fish or
3 shellfish from them. Hopefully they will also live in a
4 state that has responsible water management plan which
5 strongly enforces conserving the state's valuable natural
6 resources by taking from it efficiently and wisely. Thanks.

7 MR. LESTER: My name is Stan Lester. I farm
8 approximately five hundred and fifty acres near Winters,
9 California. Fourth generation farmer in California.

10 Farms and ranches in California, as we know,
11 provide important habitat, environmental open space
12 benefits, and provide huge economic benefits to our economy.
13 Yet the heart of the CALFED program promotes permanently
14 retiring hundreds of thousands of acres of productive
15 farmland, which will devastate farm communities in the
16 state.

17 I have another question here that hasn't been
18 able to be addressed by your staff and hasn't been asked so
19 far tonight. It is understood, of course, that we are in
20 phase two of CALFED's process, one of three phases. How and
21 why is it possible for the state, federal, and local
22 agencies to acquire properties and implement these
23 restoration and coordination program, spending two hundred
24 and twenty-eight million dollars to purposely mitigate
25 problems identified in phase one prior to the completion of

1 and I'm a dairy farmer.

2 First of all, I will not run your red light
3 because there's too many witnesses, and I really commend you
4 because you haven't missed a lick there.

5 CALFED's original goal was to ensure -- and
6 not to mean to clobber you again on agriculture, but
7 CALFED's original goal was to ensure reliable, high quality
8 water for all California, as well as addressing Bay-Delta
9 environmental concerns. CALFED approach water problems and
10 questions in this state with an idea we will get better
11 together. Unfortunately this idea has turned out to be only
12 so much rhetoric.

13 According to the CALFED document, the maximum
14 foreseeable loss over the 20/30 span of the program would
15 total two hundred forty-three thousand acres of important
16 farmland converted to program uses. According to CALFED,
17 the loss of this prime or statewide important farmland is
18 irreversible and retrievable commitment of these resources.
19 The loss of agricultural lands cannot be fully mitigated and
20 is considered potentially significant. Because no other
21 land is available in the program area and unusable for
22 program projects, the loss of these agricultural lands is
23 considered unavoidable.

24 As you continue to read the CALFED document,
25 it becomes less and less clear about how much land CALFED is

1 the EIR and EIS, which we are talking about tonight, process
2 which is part of phase two? Aren't we putting the cart
3 before the horse? How and why is this legally possible?

4 In regards to new water storage, to quote Mr.
5 Greg Thomas of the National Heritage Foundation, which is a
6 nonprofit environmental consulting firm "Urban demand is
7 going to grow no matter how heroic the efforts to conserve.
8 There is just so much you can squeeze out of the system."

9 This not only involves the urban areas but
10 also agricultural area. Our family and myself have spent,
11 in an attempt to conserve water, energy, and so forth on our
12 orchards, a thousand dollars an acre to so call improve the
13 system, not drip but -- and once that's done, that's it,
14 folks. We can't conserve any more water. We don't apply
15 any more water we have to because that's not economically
16 possible.

17 So the reality is something has got to give,
18 and with the population growth we have in this state,
19 there's just, you know, it's impossible to -- we are playing
20 Russian roulette with our California economy if we don't
21 recognize a need for addition storage in this state. Thank
22 you very much.

23 MR. VAN WARMERDAM: My name is Leo Van
24 Warmerdam. I'm the chairperson of the Galt Irrigation
25 District, first vice of the Sacramento County Farm Bureau,

1 really going to gobble up for the total project. CALFED's
2 ecosystem restoration program could affect as much as nine
3 hundred and thirty-one thousand acres of land. This through
4 outright purchases, cooperative management, or environmental
5 regulations.

6 While it is clear that the program will eat up
7 several hundred thousand acres for uses that are a large
8 portion of this land will be prime agricultural land.
9 CALFED fails to define and clarify exactly the amount of
10 acres and types of land to be used for each purpose.

11 This report says that the loss of agricultural
12 lands cannot be fully mitigated and is considered
13 potentially significant. This is unacceptable. It is not
14 potentially significant. It is significant.

15 It sounds to me like CALFED's preferred
16 alternative plan is not going to make everybody better
17 together. People need to eat. People need to wear clothes.
18 People need to have houses. Farmers grow food for all of us
19 to eat. Farmers produce fiber for the making of our
20 clothes, and farmers produce forests for the building of our
21 houses. To produce these commodities farmers need land and
22 water.

23 I have much more here, but I wanted to address
24 some of my own comments, but some of these lighter issues
25 that people are saying that agriculture is destroying the

1 habitat. I don't know where they eat because whatever they
 2 eat it is affiliated with water. Cattle drink water.
 3 That's a lot of water that's overlooked. A cow drinks forty
 4 gallons of water a day. I don't know if anybody knows that
 5 or not, but that's a lot of water that, you know, that's
 6 another source of water that's being taken by agriculture
 7 but to produce milk, you have to have water also. Thank
 8 you.

9 MR. ALBIANI: My name is Dennis Albiani. I
 10 work with the Agricultural Council of California, and I am
 11 submitting some comments, have a written package of
 12 technical comments that will be submitting written, but
 13 today I just want to take an opportunity to touch some of
 14 the main points that we brought up in our discussions, as
 15 well as talk about -- a little bit about agriculture's
 16 contribution to the state of California.

17 We've heard quite a bit today about
 18 agricultural's economic contribution, which needs to be
 19 continually harbored and the staff needs to be reminded of
 20 that continually. But also many of the farmers in this
 21 room, as well throughout the state, are the cornerstones of
 22 their communities and have been for many generations, as
 23 we've heard. And what we need to do is to remember that all
 24 the effects that we do and all the things that you put into
 25 application need -- will have affects on those communities.

1 flow of a river. Well, that's right. They reduce the flow
 2 of the river when that flow is going through people's living
 3 rooms in Yuba City, California, and Marysville, California,
 4 Colusa, and the Cosumnes River. And what they do is they
 5 capture that water for times when we need it to use it, as
 6 well as for agricultural purposes. But one thing that's
 7 been overlooked that the environmental benefits that will
 8 occur in September and October and these times of the year
 9 when we can release water for environmental flows to meet
 10 the demands of the fish. So that's very important that
 11 needs to be increased.

12 And we can minimize the redirected impacts if
 13 we increase the entire pie and use some of that increase for
 14 environmental benefits as well as for urban growth as well
 15 as for the other entities.

16 We also believe that, as has been discussed,
 17 that when land is retired, it must be mitigated and
 18 especially farm class one productive farmland needs to be
 19 mitigated.

20 MR. McDANIEL: My name is Dan McDaniel. I'm
 21 the president of the Northern California Council of the
 22 Federation of Fly Fishers. I'd like to thank you for the
 23 opportunity to address you here tonight.

24 My family has lived and worked in this valley
 25 for more than a century. Some of my family continues to

1 Some of these communities are some of the
 2 poorest communities in the state of California, especially
 3 in the San Joaquin Valley, and by inhibiting agriculture or
 4 growth in those areas, you will be hurting the entire
 5 communities. That includes the farmers, the
 6 agriculturalists, and also includes the taxpayers, the
 7 schools, the farm workers and their families, and that needs
 8 to be considered because those impacts are real and they are
 9 continual.

10 And many of these areas do not have the
 11 opportunity to diversify their economies, which people say
 12 "Oh, just diversity the economies. Let's make a Silicon
 13 Valley." There are not many manufacturing plants that are
 14 looking at Orange Cove or some of those towns that are in
 15 the valley that are dependent on agriculture, and that needs
 16 to be considered as decisions are made.

17 I'd like to go over some of the bullet points
 18 quickly that we believe are important from the Agricultural
 19 Council which represents California producers on
 20 cooperatives. California must increase its water supply
 21 available for beneficial uses, including the environment,
 22 agriculture, industry, and urban uses.

23 I would like to say that I agree with the
 24 young lady that spoke from the environmental community
 25 earlier tonight that dams, for instance, they reduce the

1 farm in this valley, and I have a small orchard up north off
 2 Highway 99. I'm a lawyer in Stockton, but I've lived my
 3 entire life in the valley. I grew up fishing the Sacramento
 4 River, the Feather River, Butte Creek, Deer Creek, and the
 5 Delta. When I was a child I watched the construction of the
 6 Orville Dam. I fished virtually every water affected or
 7 impacted by the EIR, and I believe that qualifies me to talk
 8 a little bit about it.

9 During this whole period of time I've watched
 10 all of those waters generally decline in both quality of the
 11 water and quality of the fish. I'm submitting written
 12 comments on the EIR, so I'm going to keep my comments brief
 13 and within your limits.

14 But before I give you my comments, I'd like to
 15 read something to you that President Hoover wrote many years
 16 ago. He said "Aside from the cannibalistic enemies of
 17 infant, adolescent, and adult fish, acting and living
 18 alliance with the organized army of twenty-five million
 19 fishermen, we still have another fish enemy to deal with.
 20 That is pollution. Herein is the poison cup which we give
 21 to eggs, fries, fingerlings, adolescents, and adult fish
 22 alike. Now if we want fish, we have to reserve some place
 23 for them to live. They only occur in the water, but it
 24 happens that nature adapted them to clean water. I suppose
 25 that was because nature foresaw no fishing beatitudes along

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1 a sewer."

2 Well, what I see now on the Delta is this has

3 basically become a sewer. The water quality is so poor the

4 fish can't live there. The tributaries to the Delta, the

5 water quality there is so poor, the temperatures are so

6 high, they can't live there. They can't access the upper

7 reaches of the rivers where they traditionally went when the

8 temperatures came up because there's a dam in the way and

9 the water temperature just isn't low enough for them to live

10 there.

11 When I review your EIR, I see a plan that I

12 truly believe pays only token lip service to environmental

13 restoration --

14 MR. GELLER: My name is Loren Geller. I speak

15 to you as a couple people tonight. I have a degree in

16 conservation. I have a degree in business. I'm a river

17 guide. I own a rafting company, and looking at the eyes of

18 all those people within me, I can say that you have a

19 difficult job because you have to placate a lot of people.

20 But I'd say the easiest way you could do that

21 would be to emphasize more on conservation. I think your

22 report largely ignores conservation and gives it only token

23 lip service just as other people here have spoke out.

24 Everybody in this room, when they arrived here, would have

25 liked to see that you were bringing them to a common goal,

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1 but I think that your plan doesn't bring anyone to a common

2 goal. It ignores each individual's goal, and that is

3 conservation of our water.

4 I think that by using your technologies and

5 methods available today, farmers, industries, and cities

6 could reduce their water use by ten to thirty percent. I

7 think conservation and other measures, such as improved

8 groundwater management, are more environmentally and

9 economically sound than new dams or reservoirs.

10 I think it was largely echoed throughout this

11 room this evening that we don't need any more dams, and I

12 think a much larger emphasis in your program should plan on

13 water conservation before taking any new steps toward any

14 new dams. I don't think that your documents adequately

15 reflect or model the full potential for water conservation

16 inefficiency to meet California's water needs.

17 It's been mentioned before, but I'll say it

18 again, it's beyond my belief that water metering and

19 volume-based water rates do not apply in California. Simply

20 measuring and charging for water by volume greatly decreases

21 waste. Installing water meters in the city of Sacramento, a

22 measure currently prohibited by city charter, would save as

23 much water produced by the Auburn Dam.

24 Growers using inexpensive state programs that

25 provide information about the specific water demands of

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1 their crops and up-to-date weather forecasts have reduced

2 applied water on their lands by an average of thirteen

3 percent while increasing crop yields by eight percent.

4 We've only begun to tap the potential in urban

5 water conservation with efficient home fixtures, reducing

6 water use for landscaping, and water recycling. I think

7 that all of these measures should be drastically improved

8 and required before any more steps are taken to divert any

9 rivers.

10 CALFED assumes agriculture can only conserve

11 one to three percent of the water they are currently

12 applying to crops, when demonstration projects and

13 innovative farmers have shown savings possible of

14 twenty-five percent while getting the same or higher crop

15 yields.

16 Overall CALFED is aggressively pursuing

17 storage water while allowing conservation projects to be

18 underfunded and voluntary. They should be mandatory and

19 rewarded. CALFED should follow --

20 MS. GEHRTS: My name is Karen Gehrts, and I'm

21 a student at University of California, Davis, and I noticed

22 from the get-go tonight that there seems to be a big line

23 that was drawn right here: Farmers on one side and

24 environmentalists on the other, and I noticed earlier that a

25 gentleman mentioned that we really need to all work together

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1 because we have a lot in common, and I believe that's true.

2 I kind of just want to say that I do know

3 where my food comes from, and I appreciate where it comes

4 from, and I also understand a lot of farmers do take great

5 lengths at conservation. I work for the soil science

6 department on campus. I do a lot of work with drip

7 irrigation, and it's hard. It's tough. But I see a lot of

8 room for improvement as well.

9 I'm not just saying that farmers need to

10 conserve. I'm also saying that people that live in cities

11 need to conserve as well, and if we all work together, we

12 can bring back to life the damaged ecosystem that was. It's

13 true that we have had a lot of silly mishaps in the past

14 with dam building, and we need to reconsider that.

15 And I also kind of would like to bring up the

16 fact that I do study soil hydrology, and I don't think that

17 there have been a good deal of studies done on groundwater

18 recharge with accumulation of salts and heavy metals. I

19 haven't seen anything that would make me believe that it's

20 okay to do right now. I think in some areas it is, but we

21 need to be aware of that.

22 And I also am a guide, and I am a white water

23 enthusiast, and I also believe in meandering rivers. I

24 don't want to see any more dams come up, but I believe that

25 conservation is the key and if we work a little bit harder,

1 everyone, not just the farmers and not just pinning
2 environmentalists against farmers, it will come to a good
3 end. And I appreciate you being here so long. Thank you.

4 MR. MEDEIROS: My name is Joe Medeiros. If
5 you can spell that, you are in good shape. I wish I had
6 some pistachios for you. I wish I had some rice. Actually,
7 I wish I had some smoked salmon for you all.

8 I thought maybe -- everybody seems to be
9 numerous generations in California here. I'm a third
10 generation son of a Portuguese dairyman, and I grew up in
11 the San Joaquin Valley. And I was drafted for Vietnam, but
12 I flunked and couldn't go because of asthma that I got from
13 the alfalfa on the dairy farm. But I was an Eagle Scout,
14 you need any more credentials from me? I'm a human being,
15 and so are you and we have a very, very significant and
16 important job today.

17 After we got rolling here I thought "Dang. I
18 missed my opportunity. I should have come as a salmon." I
19 should have walked up here and said "I'm a one hundred and
20 twenty thousandth generation Californian, and I'm here to
21 say what in the hell is going on in my backyard? What
22 happened to the free-flowing waters? What happened to the
23 marshes that used to take the flood waters? Now you build
24 dams, you hydraulically mined the mountains, you dirtied my
25 rivers, you choked my eggs, you destroyed my families, you

1 an artist, maybe I could find some beauty. I wish I were a
2 singer, I'd sing a song about what's happening. But I'm
3 not, I'm just a concerned citizen but a thousand and first
4 generation earth citizen. I've been here as part of a
5 generation for a long time, and so have you, and I wonder
6 how we make choices now.

7 I look at you as a panel, and Joe, are you the
8 boss? Who makes the choice? Who am I speaking to? Is it
9 Lester? Is it Julie? Is it Walter? Is it A.J.? Mary,
10 who's not here? I don't know. I've never been to a hearing
11 like this before. I'm wondering if one of you has the
12 wisdom of Solomon to make the choices. If you do, speak up.
13 I'd like to know. I don't think you do, and I don't expect
14 you to, but you must make a choice.

15 Now how do you make the choice? What are you
16 going to look at? What's important to you? Is it
17 economics? Is it the person who speaks the loudest? Is it
18 the person with the greatest influence? What has the
19 greatest influence in the choice that you will make? I
20 don't have the answers. I don't suspect you do, but you are
21 looking for them. I sincerely wish to commend you on what
22 you are doing. You are trying to find the best answer to a
23 really tough situation, and it probably does take the wisdom
24 of Solomon.

25 But you have on your chart over here an

1 put dams in the rivers, you squashed my four runs of salmon
2 into one. You made my friends extinct. We fed millions of
3 people in California."

4 The San Joaquin Valley was the home of the
5 largest human population before we got here, Europeans. Not
6 a desert. It wasn't barren. It was magnificent. Read the
7 reports of the Spaniards coming into California. The valley
8 was a cornucopia of grasslands, wetlands, millions of birds,
9 millions of fish, deer, elk, etcetera, etcetera. We
10 buggered it, folks. We turned it into very, very narrow
11 economies. We didn't mean to, but we did.

12 I do come to you because I saw millions of
13 dollars made and billions of pounds of crops produced, but
14 at the same time I saw thousands of acres of productive
15 habitat destroyed. We never gave wildlife a chance before.
16 We're finally getting a shot at it, and it could mean a
17 multibillion dollar economy to the state of California.

18 Boy, that orange light intimidates the hell out of me.
19 CALFED has not failed yet. Don't give up.

20 Keep the equation going. Address -- dang.

21 MR. RILEY: Gentleman. I'm Ernest Riley, and
22 sixteen times you've listened to things like this? And you
23 are still awake, and you are still listening? I'm amazed.

24 You know, I wish I were a comedian, and then
25 maybe I could find something humorous in this. I wish I was

1 ecosystem restoration, and I looked at that, and I thought
2 "You know, that's really a neat concept, an ecosystem
3 restoration." I hope you think of the ecosystem that was
4 here ten thousand years ago, the ecosystem you are trying to
5 restore. An ecosystem that maybe we can try and approach a
6 little more closely than we have with some of the policies
7 and activities that have happened in the last fifty to
8 seventy-five years.

9 And as we approach that ecosystem, may we make
10 that Delta more a place like an ecosystem was before and
11 some of the beauty, some of the animals, some of the
12 diversity that is as important as the money, the special
13 interests that you are hearing from tonight, listen to
14 nature, listen to the ecology, listen to the biodiversity of
15 an ecosystem that is so beautiful and so precious that you
16 have a choice in making some input into how we go from here,
17 and please listen to nature.

18 MS. OLIVER: My name is Sally Oliver. My
19 request is very specific. It has to do with including an
20 issue that has been ignored, and I would like it addressed
21 in the EIR. I was told at the Woodland hearing to come here
22 and give this to you and you would include this in the EIR.

23 I request the EIR include off-stream gravel
24 mining effects on the impact of the mercury bio accumulation
25 in Cache Creek, the Yolo Bypass, and the San Francisco Bay

1 estuary for following reasons: One, the CALFED water
2 quality workgroup identified Cache Creek as a major source
3 of total mercury to the Yolo Bypass and the San Francisco
4 Bay estuary. Cache Creek has been identified by the Clean
5 Water Act as an impaired waterway due to mercury.

6 The state Water Resources Control Board
7 biannual water quality assessment lists forty-eight thousand
8 acres of Delta waterways as impaired because of fish
9 consumption advisories for mercury.

10 Yolo County has approved a deep pit gravel
11 mining project for fourteen miles, seventeen thousand acres
12 adjacent to Cache Creek from Caypay to Yolo. Mining will
13 occur in the aquifer. The pits will be from eighty to a
14 hundred feet deep, a hundred and fifty feet. Yolo County
15 relies on the aquifer for sixty percent of its drinking
16 water and a hundred sixty percent irrigation, a hundred
17 percent drinking water.

18 The sediments adjacent to the stream must be
19 similar to those in-stream because Cache Creek is an
20 ephemeral stream in the area designated for deep pit mining.
21 This means that the stream floods periodically and
22 historically has done this over time, depositing those same
23 sediments that cause the mercury in the stream to spread out
24 adjacent to this stream where the deep pit mining will
25 occur. Okay.

1 regarded as damaging, like by building a large dam someplace
2 that nobody else has thought of before.

3 And I have concocted special dam sites myself,
4 which have never been surveyed by any federal or state. In
5 other cases I've adopted some projects which were developed
6 by the Bureau of Reclamation or the Corp of Engineers and
7 put them together in a synthesis. Anyway, the following is
8 a list of projects, and I've submitted all of these
9 proposals back in the 1980s, and they were favorably
10 regarded.

11 First, the most important of these projects is
12 my concept to development of two major off-stream storage
13 reservoirs for American River water on Deer Creek, just
14 south of the lower American River. These reservoirs, Deer
15 Creek Reservoir capacity seven hundred thousand acre feet
16 and County Line Reservoir, capacity two hundred thousand to
17 three hundred thousand acre feet, almost as large in total
18 capacity as Folsom Lake. They would be served by gravity
19 flow canal with a capacity of about seventy-five thousand
20 cubic feet per second, leading from the base of the Mormon
21 Island saddle dike at Folsom Lake extending about ten miles
22 down to the reservoirs. Okay.

23 All water would be released into the lower
24 Cosumnes River near Sloughhouse, making more than forty
25 miles of the lower Cosumnes River high quality salmon,

1 The flood waters also share the mercury low
2 originating in the mercury mines up on the top of the
3 watershed, which is Clearlake. These mercury mines have
4 been identified as a major source of pollution of the Delta.

5 Okay. Almost done, if I can get my page. Oh,
6 no, the timer's going to go off. Come on, Sally, do it.
7 There. No, no, no. Well, the Sierra is full of off-stream
8 gravel pits, and I want it addressed.

9 MR. GOULD: My name is Terry Gould. I used to
10 serve as a consultant for the Senate State Committee on Fish
11 and Game back in the late 1970s up to 1981, and I was
12 consultant for the Northern California Council of Fly
13 Fishing Clubs, and then for about ten years I was consultant
14 for California Trout Incorporated as a professional
15 consultant.

16 A lot of the proposals I'm making right now
17 are something that are rather unusual for somebody coming
18 from the conservation community because what I'm proposing
19 are dams to increase in-stream flows and the net total of
20 these dams in terms of storage capacity is roughly three
21 million acre feet, which would all be beneficial for your
22 farmers and for your fisherman and for your recreationists
23 and everybody. This is like, you know, the Solomonic choice
24 that this is the way you take care of things. You take care
25 of the environment sometimes by doing things which might be

1 steelhead, trout, and shad habitat. The lower river would
2 become a parkway and wildlife refuge.

3 The flood control channel idea has been
4 studied by two engineering firms who were hired by the
5 Bureau of Reclamation and Corp of Engineers since my early
6 reports, and they were found to be viable, if somewhat
7 expensive, and they made the channels much larger than I
8 designed.

9 MR. OLMSTEAD: For the record my name is Paul
10 Olmstead, Sacramento Municipal Utility District. Thanks for
11 staying up late and listening to these comments.

12 I want to focus -- my comments will be on
13 power generation. SMUD is the largest municipal utility
14 district in the state of California. We're also the largest
15 purchaser of CVP preferenced power. With that in mind, any
16 impact in the generation, capacity, or rates to CVP directly
17 affects the customer-owners of SMUD, one-third of the
18 impacts were borne directly by us.

19 I'll make two points in addition to the one
20 I've already sent in via the mail. First, despite all the
21 volumes of information I received, there's a disturbing lack
22 of detail in the PEIS in regards to impact of power
23 generation. It's thoroughly lacking.

24 We don't agree with the analysis that was
25 done. It was only done with one scenario, which was stated

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1 to be extreme even in the document. With that lack of
 2 information, we feel the document is thoroughly inadequate.
 3 We can't evaluate impacts. We don't know where they come
 4 from, what facilities will be built, what the costs will be,
 5 who will bear those costs, and what the benefits will be, so
 6 it's a thoroughly unacceptable situation.

7 The second point is that there's no analysis
 8 in the PEIS in regards to impacts to rates to CVP rate
 9 payers. As we wrote to you that if you increase the rates
 10 greater than what the market will bear, you will drive power
 11 customers away. You repeated that back to us in a document,
 12 which is nice to see, but there's no analysis associated
 13 with it.

14 Two impacts will basically come about from all
 15 this: We'll have to build more generation up and down the
 16 valley to compensate for the loss of generation, and
 17 secondly we'll also have to -- we don't want to see this,
 18 it's going to affect the ability to is repay the CVP debt.

19 With that in mind, CALFED has a philosophy
 20 that there's no redirected impacts and that the
 21 beneficiaries pays for any impacts. We'd like to see that
 22 idea in regards to power generation.

23 There's a great quote that Lester Snow made in
 24 the movie that says "Everybody affected must be part of the
 25 solution." We're potentially greatly affected by the CVP

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1 program, but yet we're not consulted as part of the
 2 solution.

3 We recommend that the Western Area Power
 4 Administration be made part of the governing board of
 5 CALFED, and with that in mind will become part of -- I know
 6 you are shaking your head, but we'd like to see that happen,
 7 please. With that, we'll take our concerns in mind, we'd
 8 like to see the Department of Interior implement that
 9 recommendation. With that in mind, I'll leave my comments.
 10 Thank you.

11 MS. GUILLEN: My name is Rosalinda Guillen.
 12 I'm a political director for the United Farm Workers of
 13 America, AFL-CIO. I grew up on farm-worker wages. My
 14 father was a farmer worker. I was a farm worker myself, so
 15 I know very well that part of agriculture, the labor part,
 16 and I understand, you know, that we do bring the food to the
 17 table also.

18 The United Farm Workers agree that
 19 conservation is key to any water management model and
 20 applaud the water use efficiency program that will implement
 21 greater water conservation. Farm workers have a long-term
 22 interest in securing clean, safe drinking water on the job
 23 and in their homes. We also have a long-term interest in
 24 sustaining the viability of the agricultural industry.
 25 Preserving an adequate supply of agricultural

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1 water is necessary to maintaining a healthy agricultural
 2 industry and protecting farm workers' jobs. To the extent
 3 that a diminishing viable water supply affects agriculture,
 4 it will also affect the demand for labor.

5 California is the largest employer of farm
 6 workers in the nation. The net impact on farm workers'
 7 employment and living conditions and the long-term health of
 8 the agricultural industry must be of concern in considering
 9 any water supply alternatives, be it interdistrict or
 10 interstate.

11 We do have some concerns regarding the draft
 12 CALFED report. First, the agricultural land that is going
 13 to be converted to ecological use right now is not only
 14 unspecified in amount but also in location. Representatives
 15 of farm labor and rural communities should have an active
 16 role in the decisions in the way that the selection of these
 17 lands are going to be made, and they should have a voice in
 18 helping to lessen the impact of economic burdens in the
 19 rural communities.

20 Secondly, at this time we do not see water
 21 transference as necessarily the long-term solutions for the
 22 entire Delta. CALFED has not addressed how it will
 23 compensate affected farm workers in rural communities.

24 We are concerned that if water transfers are
 25 left to develop into a market, the water will go to the

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1 highest bidder away from agriculture and to land-owning
 2 water companies. If this occurs, rural communities and farm
 3 workers could be left with nothing except more poverty, of
 4 which we know in the Central Valley and agricultural areas
 5 farm-worker poverty still is a big concern. Although
 6 short-term water transfers can be essential for droughts,
 7 transferring water rights long-term may not always be
 8 beneficial to the larger communities.

9 We know that there will be an economic impact
 10 on farm workers and the rural core. That is not being
 11 addressed here, has not been addressed at all. The United
 12 Farm Workers supports sustainable agriculture, especially
 13 when conditions for agricultural labor improve through
 14 mutually productive collective bargaining relationships
 15 between growers and farm workers.

16 MS. ROBINSON: Heather Robinson, farmer,
 17 Roberts Island. I live and work in the Delta. I disagree
 18 with you, Mr. Snow, unfortunately, again. When someone
 19 asked you this evening if CALFED should be asked to meet
 20 California's future water needs, you stated that it
 21 shouldn't, but why else are you here? Why else does your
 22 impact area highlight the entire state? Why do you have a
 23 thirty-year program? Why are we wasting our taxpayer
 24 dollars if this is not supposed to be a long-term solution?
 25 Currently water for Northern California

1 importance water plays in the life of every person in
 2 California, the ag community, as well as each and every
 3 California citizen now and in the future.

4 As the population continues to increase, we
 5 need to plan for the 21st century to increase water storage
 6 facilities as well as maintaining water quality for the
 7 people of our state. We cannot return to the past.

8 Part of the plan proposes using additional
 9 water to support and subsidize exotic species that feed on
 10 native salmon. If we are to respect environmental integrity
 11 and history, the needs of introduced species should not be a
 12 priority in the planning.

13 Millions of people, indeed all California
 14 citizens, will be affected by this plan. Yet the focus of
 15 the plan appears to be fish and wildlife habitat rather than
 16 the people of California. Discussions or proposals about
 17 water use that divide us into sectors, such as environment,
 18 government, and ag are not constructive to the people.

19 Water conservation and land use planning are a
 20 focus of the ag industry. Many farmers have property in the
 21 Williamson Act where we have promised to keep the land in
 22 agriculture for ten years, and soon many will make the
 23 twenty-year commitment to a farmland security zone.

24 We need to know that water will be available
 25 to maintain the land use in order for that property to be a

1 that is the executive director of the San Joaquin Farm
 2 Bureau Federation in Stockton, representing our close to
 3 five thousand farm and ranch families members in our
 4 organization.

5 In the essence of time, I will warn you that
 6 we will be submitting to you in writing a detailed analysis
 7 of your environmental documentations, but in light of
 8 waiting this long, I thought that I should be able to speak
 9 to you, at least, for some reason, if nothing else to see if
 10 we can make this the longest hearing of the sixteen.

11 And I thought to myself earlier, I wished that
 12 I could come up with something that I could speak to you
 13 that maybe you have not heard as members of a hearing panel
 14 in your sixteen hearings and learned earlier tonight I
 15 cannot speak about smoking salmon, so I think, instead, we
 16 will talk about solution principles, part of your CALFED
 17 mission statement of objectives and solution principles
 18 inside your environmental documentation and some questions
 19 or points to ponder, maybe, for you and your reviewing
 20 panel, so we'll take the hearing comments from this and
 21 other hearings and review them.

22 One of your solution principles within your
 23 environmental document is to reduce conflicts in the system.
 24 It says "Solutions will reduce major conflicts among
 25 beneficial uses of water." You've heard many comments

1 viable, economic unit which contributes to the local, state,
 2 and national economy. A dry field with no production that
 3 will not pay the wages of the labor force, who in turn would
 4 not spend their salaries in the community.

5 As stewards of the land, farmers have chosen
 6 to use irrigation methods such as microsprinkler and drip
 7 irrigation systems, which result in decreased water usage,
 8 although they are much more expensive to purchase and use in
 9 the field than flood irrigation. This is a choice we have
 10 made for the conservation of natural resources.

11 The wholesale retirement of farmland for
 12 drainages or water sales for usage elsewhere is a
 13 shortsighted approach. It is said that every farm dollar of
 14 sales multiplies itself six to seven times in the local
 15 economy. For many people the consequences of taking land
 16 out of production seems so remote, but it is not.

17 In conclusion, I would like to say that many
 18 times ag is referred to as a major water user, but we are
 19 merely a conduit to the consumer, the ultimate water user.
 20 I would also close by encouraging CALFED to adopt a
 21 seven-year record of decision rather than a thirty-year
 22 record. Thank you.

23 MR. MATTHEWS: Good evening. For the record
 24 I'm Russ Matthews, a lifelong California agriculturalist
 25 speaking tonight, however, in my professional position and

1 tonight from the agricultural community in regards to this,
 2 and I urge you to consider how converting hundreds of
 3 thousands of agricultural acres in California helps you to
 4 achieve that principle.

5 You also have a solution principle to be
 6 equitable, and I quote from your documentation that
 7 "Solutions will focus on solving problems in all areas."
 8 You've heard some very eloquent people talk to you about
 9 that very recently this evening, and I urge you to
 10 understand that storage, both north of and south of the
 11 Delta, is your only answer.

12 Be implementable. "Solutions will have broad
 13 public acceptance and legal feasibility." I question if any
 14 of you or any of your other hearing panels after hearing all
 15 of the comments that you have in sixteen hearings believe
 16 that that solution principle has been met.

17 And to be affordable, one of my favorites.
 18 "Solutions will be implementable and maintainable within the
 19 foreseeable resources of the program and stakeholders." I
 20 looked up the word "affordable" in the dictionary before we
 21 came this evening. I apparently don't have the government's
 22 description of affordable when I look at the amount of money
 23 that this program has and will spend. I urge you to
 24 consider the economic concerns of the taxpayers of the state
 25 of California.

1 Your environmental documentation must match
2 your principles and your missions and your principle
3 solutions of this program, and I urge you to consider those
4 comments. Thank you.

5 MR. BROWN: Good evening, ladies and
6 gentlemen. My name is Jeff Brown. I'm a Tracy area farmer.
7 That's in the San Joaquin Valley, for all of you that don't
8 know where Tracy is.

9 A couple of things is as a young boy going to
10 school, I used to think about the Native Americans that were
11 here in the valley and how it must have looked when the
12 settlers came over the hills and looked onto this great
13 valley and all the wildlife that was out there, and then I
14 thought "Well, gee, we're here now, and I don't know if we
15 can go back." I don't think anybody really wants to go back
16 to that. We can't. We have cities. We have homes and dams
17 that have been built to control flood and this whole
18 infrastructure we rely on. We are part of a fabric of
19 society, and it doesn't end here in California or the cities
20 or the counties. It goes way beyond. It goes into our
21 nation.

22 We are the suppliers of the nation's and the
23 world's food supply. It is what has made our nation great.
24 It's more than what has made our nation great. It's the
25 envy of the world, and if you change, if we take and our

1 support preservation of the farmland as well as preservation
2 of the environment. I don't know what CALFED's job is
3 totally, but I would say that we need to preserve the farm
4 lands just for all the reasons that were mentioned
5 previously here.

6 And as far as the dams, there was a comment
7 made that they should be taken out. Well, we lost four
8 thousand acres of our ranch to a dam, Comanche Dam. I
9 didn't like it. If they took it out, I'm sure Lodi would
10 have a lot of complaints because it kept them from flooding.
11 If you took out Pardee and some other dams, I'm sure East
12 Bay MUD would be buying a lot of bottled water because
13 that's their water supply, so I think storage of water is
14 important for everybody to take a look at.

15 Like I said, I don't know how many people you
16 are working with, but it sounds to me like it would be a
17 good idea to work with the environmentalists and the
18 ranchers and maybe locate the reservoirs where they wouldn't
19 affect the environment, the wildlife.

20 But it sounds like you've got your job cut out
21 for you, and I think storage is a big part of it. A lot of
22 cities of use are using and have used water storage and, you
23 know, it's good to go out to the rivers too, but I think
24 this urban population growth has allowed a lot of study on
25 where they should get the water to handle the ranches and

1 supply -- our food supply and we convert that and we
2 diminish that, then we will be reliant upon food from other
3 nations. We will be importers of foods. We will be at the
4 mercy of other nations. We will become a third world, I
5 guarantee it. That is a dubious distinction that can either
6 be taken care of or, you know, you guys have that -- have to
7 make that decision, and I don't envy you for that, but I
8 think that you can make that, the right decision.

9 I'm also, in my little farm, I grow the
10 nation's -- part of the nation's supply of apricot baby
11 food. One ranch accounts for about eighty-five percent of
12 what you feed your children if you go and buy apricots from
13 Gerber, Heinz, Beechnut in Northern California and North
14 America and Canada. Do we want to feed our children food
15 from the United States and California, or do we want to feed
16 our children and be reliant on food from other countries?
17 And that is a question I pose to you. Hopefully you will
18 take that home tonight and think about it. Thank you.

19 MR. HESSILTINE: Bob Hessiltine from the
20 Clements/Lodi area, and we've been in agriculture since 1854
21 in the livestock, sheep, and vineyards, and I'm a director
22 for the San Joaquin County Farm Bureau in that area. First
23 time I've actually spoke at the hearings.

24 Everybody said everything I wanted to say.
25 I've been making notes all along, and pretty much I would

1 the environment and the urban, so I think population creates
2 -- the growth of population in California has created a need
3 for water.

4 I would support the board, also, in taking a
5 look at the fact that it does affect a lot of jobs if the
6 land is taken out of production and the United Farm Workers
7 pretty much stressed that, and I think, again, the final
8 thing I want to say is we need to preserve farmland along
9 with the environmental, and it's an important part of our
10 economy in California, and we can't go back the way it was
11 with the Indians, so although I'd like to, but this is now,
12 so thanks.

13 MR. GALLI: I'm Louis Galli from Tracy. I'm
14 not going to say too much tonight. I don't want to take
15 your time because I notice most of you guys are all asleep,
16 so instead of talking to a sleepy audience, what I will say
17 is everybody is looking at everything wrong. Nobody has
18 looked at the cities where they are wasting more water than
19 anybody. The city of Tracy, the city of Stockton, Manteca,
20 they are doing all this beautiful landscaping, all the
21 hills, mountains, and everything else and they irrigate
22 during the daytime. Water runs out into the street, and
23 people don't realize how much water is wasted, yet they get
24 on the farmer's ass and say "He's the guy that's wasting the
25 water, and he's recycling the river, and he's putting the

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1 contaminations in," and all that BS.
 2 When we first moved to Tracy in 1936, it was
 3 dry farming. We were some of the first ones to do
 4 irrigation. And also there was a swamp there, and I
 5 remember now there was a Brazilian Swizzlefaub (phonetic) in
 6 there and an African bullhawker (phonetic), and those poor
 7 animals are gone now.
 8 MS. DICKINSON: Mary Ann Dickinson, and I'm
 9 the executive director of the California Urban Water
 10 Conservation Council, an organization of two hundred and
 11 thirty-five water agencies, environmental groups, and others
 12 who have signed a memorandum of understanding pledging to
 13 implement conservation best management practices.
 14 At a meeting last week of our full membership,
 15 the council approved a lengthy set of comments on the
 16 revised draft EIR/EIS, which we will file with you tomorrow.
 17 But in my three minutes tonight I would like to briefly
 18 cover two major issues.
 19 The first is water conservation certification.
 20 CALFED is recommending a water use efficiency program, a
 21 detailed program, that will require water agencies within
 22 its solution area to comply with water conservation best
 23 management practices, the same ones adopted and enforced by
 24 the council. CALFED is further proposing that the council
 25 be given the job of officially certifying these water

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1 agencies.
 2 I'm here today to reaffirm to CALFED the
 3 council's interest in being that certification entity. Over
 4 the past two years we have undertaken a number of projects
 5 to prepare the council and its membership for a possible
 6 certification role. These projects are outlined in our
 7 detailed comments which we'll file tomorrow.
 8 But with respect to certification, we wanted
 9 to actually add an additional comment: CALFED should
 10 clarify that any agency or organization, private as well as
 11 public, that wholesales water or facilitates water transfers
 12 should be equally subject to the same certification
 13 requirements. That is a western water company should
 14 provide the same water conservation incentives and
 15 assistance as a metropolitan water district or a San Diego
 16 County water authority.
 17 Second issue I wanted to cover was funding.
 18 The investments in water conservation contemplated by the
 19 CALFED documents are staggering, and these investments by
 20 water agencies alone could not possibly be accomplished
 21 within the stage one time frame without substantial
 22 financial assistance from CALFED and the legislature to
 23 ensure that this water conservation happens.
 24 Although millions of dollars in conservation
 25 investments have already been made by agencies, much more

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1 needs to be done. To promote greater conservation, CALFED
 2 should consider investing in programs that are beyond the
 3 cost-effective reach of the local water agency. Programs
 4 that wouldn't otherwise be undertaken but which have direct
 5 benefits to the Bay-Delta.
 6 Furthermore, the timing of the funding is a
 7 critical issue. Unless this funding is made available
 8 early, the effects of the water efficiency program may be
 9 too late to be evaluated in stage one of the CALFED program.
 10 As CALFED struggles with how to estimate the
 11 funding needs of its common programs, the Council stands
 12 ready to be of whatever assistance it can be in calculating
 13 potential program expenditures and in advising CALFED on the
 14 methods of funding distribution.
 15 We also will be filing technical comments
 16 which will deal with CALFED's estimates of water
 17 conservation savings potential and will look forward to
 18 getting the comments to you for your deadline tomorrow.
 19 MR. MUSILLAMI: My name is Steve Musillami.
 20 I'm here representing the Delta Ad-Hoc Recreation Committee.
 21 These comments were prepared collectively by the Delta
 22 Ad-Hoc Recreation Committee and do not represent adopted or
 23 official positions of the agencies and groups that
 24 participated in its preparation. However, the participants
 25 in the Ad-Hoc Recreation Committee include Department of

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1 Boating and Waterways, Department of Parks and Recreation,
 2 the Delta Protection Commission, Wildlife Conservation
 3 Board, CALFED, California Delta Chambers, Northern
 4 California Marine Association, Recreational Boaters of
 5 California, and on and on and on, many others.
 6 As a group, the committee seeks recognition by
 7 CALFED of the value and importance of recreation as an
 8 ongoing activity in the Delta. The committee seeks a
 9 partnership with CALFED to mitigate impacts and to design
 10 and implement new recreation facilities and opportunities
 11 throughout the following recommendations.
 12 The revised draft EIR should more fully
 13 address existing California policies and laws which support
 14 recreation in the Delta, including the California
 15 constitution, the public trust doctrine, the Davis Dahlgw
 16 Act, the California Government Code, and the Public
 17 Resources Code.
 18 Recreation should not be dismissed as a minor,
 19 unimportant use in the Delta. Recreation should be
 20 acknowledged and recognized as an important, vital use that
 21 supports and reflects the ecological health of the Delta
 22 ecosystem.
 23 The key recommendation of the Ad-Hoc
 24 Recreation Committee is a pressing need for an immediate
 25 preparation of a master plan or vision for recreation in the

1 Delta. This plan should be prepared in partnership with
2 recreation providers and recreational users of the Delta.
3 Implementation of this plan both for mitigation -- where am
4 I? Okay.

5 This committee should make -- should be made
6 up of the -- okay. There's the -- CALFED should be overseen
7 by -- this project should be overseen by Delta Recreation
8 Oversight Committee. This committee should be made up of
9 Delta recreation stakeholders and should serve as an
10 oversight body much as a panel of scientists will oversee
11 the ecosystem restoration program.

12 Some of the proposed mitigation that we would
13 like to see is to address the programmatic impacts to
14 recreation. The Ad-Hoc committee suggests inclusion of
15 programmatic mitigation measures to be funded in stage one,
16 and also we'd like to see that these funds be designated by
17 CALFED to prepare the implementation of a recreation master
18 plan, that CALFED should authorize a Delta Recreation
19 Oversight Committee made up of Delta recreation
20 stakeholders, and that all CALFED projects and CALFED-funded
21 projects should fully mitigate any impacts on recreation and
22 recreational boating. All projects funded by CALFED should
23 provide public access and/or recreation onsite or offsite
24 and provide improved services.

25 MR. REYNOLDS: Good evening. My name is

1 And finally on page 7.3-18 "The effects on
2 agricultural in the other state water project and Central
3 Valley Project service areas are expected to be small.
4 Substantial conversion of agricultural land in the Delta
5 region could shift some production to desert areas in
6 Southern California, such as the Imperial Valley." This
7 solution is not equitable, and it is not implementable, and
8 that in itself violates your own solution principles.

9 I'm ninety-first on your list of speakers
10 because I spent the afternoon at the Tracy hearing -- or it
11 wasn't a hearing, a discussion of south Delta improvement
12 plans. And there we were told, and I will quote, Steve Burr
13 (phonetic) said when he was asked about the modeling, that
14 they were presenting their modeling data today without full
15 confidence. Well, if your own staff doesn't have confidence
16 of where you are in the process today, then how can you ask
17 the public to have confidence in it? And we fully expect to
18 see CALFED in court.

19 MR. REYNOLDS: I'm Bill Reynolds. I'm not a
20 farmer. I'm a banker in San Joaquin County. I think it's
21 important to recognize the number of people that are here
22 this evening who normally would be in bed several hours ago.
23 I believe most of you folks are getting paid and on a
24 payroll. These folks are doing that on their own time.
25 Trust is a major issue with CALFED process,

1 Rogene Reynolds. I live in the south Delta, one mile north
2 of Old River, fifth generation Delta farming family. I rode
3 every mile of that Delta on my pony as a kid. I've sailed
4 on the Delta for twenty-five years. I was carried out of
5 the Governor's office twenty years ago fighting the
6 peripheral canal, and I spent a year on CALFED, and those
7 are my credentials.

8 I would like to speak to the process as it
9 relates to the EIR. I believe that the document can and
10 will be challenged because it is deficient, specifically in
11 the area of governance. It's being circulated for public
12 comment with no government structure.

13 Now I'd like to speak to some details
14 regarding the south Delta. There have been comments tonight
15 on land retired for ecosystem restoration. Page 4-10 of the
16 EIR says "The estimate of land area affected by the
17 ecosystem restoration program Delta region, one hundred
18 eleven thousand six hundred acres; the San Joaquin River,
19 forty-three hundred acres."

20 The ecosystem restoration program -- this is
21 page 7.1-17 "The ecosystem restoration program could convert
22 up to a hundred and twelve thousand acres of important Delta
23 farmland. Although some of these agricultural uses may be
24 shifted to the Central Valley or elsewhere, this conversion
25 is a potentially significant unavoidable adverse impact."

1 particularly as long as these plans include any portion of a
2 peripheral canal. I really do not know who is making the
3 decisions that will affect the livelihood as part of the
4 trust. We really do not know who is making the decisions
5 that will affect the livelihood of agriculture and others.
6 They seem to be federal and state agencies who are divorced
7 one step further from the general public than they once
8 were.

9 Rogene said a moment ago that there is no
10 present plan in the EIR as for continuing governance of the
11 CALFED beast that has been established here. The CALFED
12 plan has no acceptable package of assurances in this plan
13 for any individual party or all collective parties, and
14 certainly there's no financing package included in the plan.
15 Lack of factual data has been overcome by the sheer weight
16 of the EIR/EIS. If you are not on someone's payroll, you
17 cannot hope to follow the project or attend countless
18 meetings.

19 Water quality in the San Joaquin Delta is
20 crucial to the continued economic viability of agriculture.
21 Your present plan seemed to result in poorer water quality
22 to many present water users, including fish, particularly in
23 the south Delta, poor water results and poor crop yield,
24 which is economic strangulation for Delta farmers. It's a
25 long-term thing that you go a little bit worse each year.

1 How can you legally degrade the water quality
 2 of those holding riparian water rights? That's a good
 3 question. The common pool concept needs to be maintained.
 4 Again, retaining any part of the peripheral canal within
 5 your plan certainly promotes distrust, takes away all
 6 incentive for the through-Delta plan to work. Water is
 7 important to the state of California. There's not enough to
 8 go around.

9 The CALFED EIR/EIS is an attempt to reallocate
 10 existing water supplies. It does this at the expense of
 11 agriculture, particularly in the San Joaquin Delta. The
 12 plan does not provide for new storage, particularly in the
 13 south of the Delta, which are crucial to using limited water
 14 effectively.

15 Northern California population is going to
 16 grow along with that of the entire state. We are going to
 17 need our water. Those areas that are water deficient need
 18 to move swiftly toward self-reliance. Water-deficient areas
 19 do not have a right to receive water that is of superior
 20 quality than what San Joaquin Delta users who have riparian
 21 rights are forced to use.

22 MS. MILLER: Marna Miller, West Sacramento. I
 23 got one of these in the mail. I would consider this
 24 alienation of the public because if you think Joe citizen is
 25 going to read this and think they want to come hear this,

1 people, showed his bonding issue. Some of it in here is
 2 paying people to do jobs they already should be damn well
 3 doing.

4 The people here tonight bringing up the
 5 conservation, yet they are not bringing up the fact that we
 6 need meters. Well they must be here from the meter
 7 companies because they are not bringing up the fact that
 8 Sacramento City and the Bay Area are allowed to pollute,
 9 have runoffs that go into the river, dump manure, and all
 10 sorts of stuff in there, and it slides through the Water
 11 Control Board, so the quality of water just stinks all the
 12 time.

13 Yet the big cities sort of slide by, and they
 14 get pollution by permit. Yet the little cities that can't
 15 afford to fight the Water Control Board, they get dumped on,
 16 like West Sacramento. West Sacramento had to clean up its
 17 water. Good for us. Sacramento is still dumping crap in
 18 the river, and it has to pour chlorine, but we have to pay
 19 two hundred fifty thousand dollars when we do it.

20 I'd like to see some better or best management
 21 practices. I don't see that. Adaptive management means who
 22 is making the most noise so you don't stop this program in
 23 its tracks. I hope this program dies in its tracks until
 24 you can get somebody who can actually control things and put
 25 in good, best management practices --

1 they don't even know what this means, and I don't think that
 2 the CALFED process has been friendly to the public since my
 3 public works director had to call here after about the sixth
 4 time I couldn't get any kind of notice from a public
 5 meeting.

6 I was at the Tracy meeting today, and typical
 7 of all the meetings, like the workshops and like this where
 8 it's stacked with "I want mines," a presentation on the
 9 pollution in Tracy area was presented, and the man said
 10 "Well, Alex, you are right. We need to confer with you on
 11 the modeling." Well, Alex has been telling them things for
 12 a year and a half I've been going to meetings. I've never
 13 heard them listen to their commissioners. At workshops it's
 14 still going on. If the policy group says something, "Well,
 15 let's send it to the restoration group and see what they
 16 think." I go to the restoration group, and it says "Well,
 17 that's going to be discussed in the policy group."

18 I find it not good that the summary -- that
 19 your executive summary basically says just hold a juggling
 20 act until we make sure that everything is in place to send
 21 the water to San Diego.

22 I believe there's too many people with
 23 conflict of interest. Even Mr. Machado was at the Tracy
 24 meeting today presenting -- listening to all the things, and
 25 he made some good comments, and he will follow up with

1 MR. PETERSEN: First I was debating on this.
 2 I'd like to make a statement here. I want to take this off
 3 because there were some folks here tonight that talked about
 4 this side versus that side. I think we have to work
 5 together. I think ag and fish can both work together. I'm
 6 going to put this in my pocket.

7 But by my story you will hear my side as well,
 8 though. I have two jobs. Most of my day I'm a certified
 9 irrigation designer. I design, sell, and install irrigation
 10 systems that conserve water by using water to its fullest
 11 potential. When I've concluded my day as an irrigation man,
 12 I head home and work my ground in an attempt to make a
 13 living and keep this country's mouth full. I chose to
 14 install an expensive but state-of-art subsurface irrigation
 15 system. It conserves water. I believe in conservation. My
 16 customers who install thousands of acres of drip and micro
 17 irrigation annually believe in conservation as well.

18 I also believe in fish. Some day I hope to
 19 take my fifteen-month-old daughter steelhead fishing as my
 20 father did. However, if I had to choose between keeping my
 21 ranch, my home, my family, being fed, or a fishing trip, I
 22 would have to choose against the fish.

23 I believe anyone in this room, even earlier
 24 tonight when the room was full, if they were truly faced
 25 with that decision, they would make the same choice.

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1 Fortunately for me, I am not going to have to make that
 2 decision.
 3 Your mission and your number one objective in
 4 your documents here state that your mission is to provide
 5 good water for all beneficial uses. I am a beneficial use.
 6 Just ask the many local suppliers and charities that I
 7 support.
 8 I would ask that when you rewrite your
 9 document, you not forget your number one objective: Good
 10 water for all beneficial uses, guarantee water to
 11 agriculture as firmly as you have for the environmental
 12 issues.
 13 I wish you well in the endeavor that you have
 14 before you, and I ask that you remember balance, that you
 15 remember common sense, and please don't take away my dreams.
 16 If you take away my dreams, you take away my red, white, and
 17 blue.
 18 MR. TUMA: The name is D.A. Tuma. I'm the
 19 Libertarian Party candidate for Congressional District 3. I
 20 am glad to be here tonight as this is my last chance to find
 21 something good in what you've done, and I've tried, and I've
 22 tried.
 23 And I'll offer you this much: You've given me
 24 plenty of evidence to justify my personal commitment to
 25 offer myself to the abuses of political life just because I

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1 think this country has lost the idea that people can make
 2 decisions on their own, that they've got management
 3 authority over their own minds. They can choose what to
 4 believe. They've got management authority over their own
 5 bodies. They can do with their bodies what they want to, as
 6 long as they don't hurt anybody else. And they can also
 7 have management authority over the fruits of their labor,
 8 which means acquisition of private property. They have the
 9 right to trade that property, and they don't have to give it
 10 up to monarch or a communist committee or CALFED.
 11 There's a saying that got me started down this
 12 path, and I learned it from my mother. She said that there
 13 was a man one time, you might recognize this: "From each
 14 according to his ability, to each according to his need."
 15 Well, a fella by the name of Carl Marx said that, and I
 16 didn't know exactly what was the hang up in there, and the
 17 hang up was who chooses what is needed? And that's the
 18 whole hang up that's in this CALFED program.
 19 You just pull out any page you want, and it
 20 has to do with ecological restoration. I can find one on
 21 page 7, and it says "CALFED aims to meet the needs of
 22 multiple plant and animal species." Well, who is going to
 23 decide those needs? Whoever's got the guns, that's who.
 24 Good night, folks.
 25 ///

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1 (Whereupon, the proceedings
 2 were concluded at 11:22 p.m.)
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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
 2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
 3 COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO) ss.
 4
 5 I, KELI RUTHERDALE, a Certified Shorthand
 6 Reporter licensed by the State of California, and empowered
 7 to administer oaths and affirmations pursuant to Section
 8 2093(b) of the Code of Civil Procedure, do hereby certify:
 9 That the said proceedings were recorded
 10 stenographically by me and were thereafter transcribed by me
 11 via computer-assisted transcription;
 12 That the foregoing transcript is a true record
 13 of the proceedings which then and there took place;
 14 That I am a disinterested person to said
 15 action.
 16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name
 17 on September 29th, 1999.
 18
 19
 20
 21 _____
 22 KELI RUTHERDALE
 23 Certified Shorthand Reporter #10084
 24
 25

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