

Original Response Letter to the
Department of Food and Agriculture

Memorandum

Date : December 9, 1997

To : A.J. Yates
Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street, Suite 409
Sacramento, California 95814

From : Department of Water Resources

Subject: Negative Declaration for the Prospect Island Project

This is in response to your letter of November 16, 1997 regarding Prospect Island. In your letter you requested that the Department of Water Resources extend the comment period for the Negative Declaration for the proposed Project Island project and that Department of Food and Agriculture and DWR staff meet to discuss the project's environmental impacts.

After discussing your letter with Bob Potter, I have decided not to extend the comment period, but DWR will not file a Notice of Determination until issues associated with Prospect Island have been discussed with you and your staff. Leo Winternitz, DWR's Program Manager for the Prospect Island Project, will be contacting Roger Reynolds to arrange the meeting. Since Prospect Island is a joint federal/State project, we will be inviting representatives of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the discussions.

I understand the issues related to Prospect Island and land conversion in general were also raised at a recent meeting of the Governor's Water Policy Council and that a subsequent meeting to focus on Prospect Island has been scheduled. Leo plans to attend that meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 227-7531 or have Robin contact Leo at (916) 227-7548.



Randall L. Brown, Chief
Environmental Services Office