

Sept. 17, 1999

SEP 20 1999 0959

Dear *Lester Snow*

The Cal-Fed Bay Delta Program must be revised to not commit to building any new or expanded dams, reservoirs or canals during Cal-Fed's "stage 1" covering the first seven years of the program. We have too many dams now. Dams destroy vital habitat for wildlife, disrupt ecosystems and degrade water quality in California. Dams also promote a false sense of security and promotes suburbanization that destroys farming land and fuels air pollution as well as water pollution.

Please increase investments in water conservation and efficiency, ground water management and drinking water treatment. Agribusiness in the central valley should plant crops with less water demands. Cotton and rice especially are wasteful water crops for California; moreover, the toxic chemicals used on these two crops (more than any other crop besides corn) poison our groundwater, rivers and the food we eat.

We must improve water quality for people and wildlife by preventing pollution at the source. Pollution is generated by people and industry and technology---population growth generates more of it! Stabilize population! Building sewage treatment plants on rivers is idiotic and plain stupid! Sewage needs to be processed and worked back into the land for trees, plants and grasses; or, crops such as cotton or hemp used in fabrics.

We must restore our rivers, bays and fisheries by providing firm guarantees of more fresh water flows and by caring for the land around our rivers. Rivers and streams need at least 100 yard boundaries on both sides to protect them for clean water. No houses, industry, businesses, mining, logging should be allowed within 100 yards of rivers or streams. Clean watersheds are very valuable; we need to protect them and keep water flowing through these areas as naturally as possible.

Taxpayers always pay too much in subsidies and for cleanups of industrial waste sites. End taxpayer subsidies! Taxpayers should not have to pay for unneeded destructive water projects by Cal-Fed Bay/Delta program.

Sincerely,

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