

SEP 20 1999

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John W. Schooling
2 Hill Oak Commons
Chico, CA 95928

September 16, 1999

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

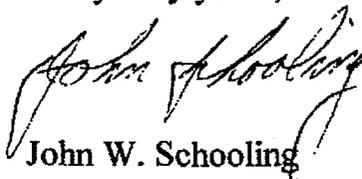
Dear Mr. Breitenbach:

I was unable to attend your hearing in Chico on September 15 and would appreciate it if you would include my written comments in your considerations.

I am a retired attorney who represented water districts in the adjudications of the Los Angeles and Tehachapi ground water basins in the late 1960's. The hydrology theory upon which those adjudications were based ensured that the water basins remained useful for the existing overlying landowners.

There are similarities to these cases now in the Butte County situation: There are local ground water basins that could be drawn down. There are local riparian and appropriative surface water uses which could be reduced. I encourage CALFED to formulate plans such that the agricultural and urban uses now in place in Butte County are protected. Anything to the contrary violates the concept of local use of available water and is inappropriate.

Very truly yours,



John W. Schooling

JWS/ms