5730 West Cromwell
Fresno, CA 93722

August 17, 2000

RECEIVED
AUG 21 2000
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Mr. Steve Ritchie, Acting Executive Director
Cal-Fed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Final Programmatic EIS/EIR

Dear Mr. Ritchie:

Cal-Fed must recognize California farmland as a valuable environmental resource. The Cal-Fed plan would take nearly 250,000 acres out of production. Cal-Fed has not given enough thought to the environmental impact of this land conversion. The plan needs to look for ways to reduce the loss of farmland.

Cal-Fed should work with farmers on voluntary habitat conversation That way, the land can assist feed the appetite of our growing populace and provide, of course, habitat at the same time.

But farmers can't provide habitat or feed people w/out reliable and affordable water. Cal-Fed must develop water storage with adequate yield. New storage will help water for the enviroment in seven years, so water won't have to be taken away from the cities.

I think Cal-Fed should hold public hearings to explain its plans before they become final. Cal-Fed should not finalize its plan until citizens have adequate opportunity to review us and complement upon it.

Sincerely
Albert [illegible]

cc: senators Dianne Feinstein, Barbara Boxer, Cal Dooley, Governor Gray Davis, County Supervisor Jim Costa, Chuck ~~Richard~~ Poochigian, Mike Briggs

C-114432

C-114432