MATTHEW N. TANNER
DEL MONTE FRESH PRODUCE COMPANY
P.O. BOX 577
SANGER, CA 93657

AUGUST 17, 2000

MR. STEVE RITCHIE, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CAL-FED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM
1416 NINTH STREET, SUITE 1155
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

RECEIVED
AUG 21 2000
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

RE: FINAL PROGRAMMATIC EIS/EIR

DEAR MR. RITCHIE:

AS A MEMBER + REPRESENTATIVE OF A MULTI-NATIONAL FOOD SOURCE/SUPPLIER, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE YOU CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING: THINK LOCALLY, THE IMPACT WILL BE FELT GLOBALLY. A PLAN SUCH AS THIS PROPOSAL WILL HAVE A VERY FAR FLUNG EFFECT UPON THIS STATE + ITS PEOPLE (NOT NECESSARILY ITS FISH + WILDLIFE).

I'M A FIRM BELIEVER IN LAND PRESERVATION + HABITAT RESTORATION FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS, BUT NOT AT A HEFTY COST TO MY WELL BEING, MY FAMILY'S + MY LIVELIHOOD. THIS PLAN TO UTILIZE 250,000 ACRES WITHOUT REGARD TO PUBLIC OUTCRY/SCRUTINY ONLY ENHANCES THE RIFT/DIVIDE THAT FURTHER SEPARATES GOVERNMENT/ENVIRONMENTALISM/FARMING.

MY BIGGEST OPPOSITION TO THIS PLAN LEANS NOT TOWARDS THE NON-PRODUCTIVE USE OF THE LAND, BUT THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE WATER/MINERAL RIGHTS. IN NORTHERN + CENTRAL CALIFORNIA, WE HAVE GIVEN UP ENOUGH OF OUR WATER + LAND FOR HETCH-HETCHY/AQUEDUCT/CANAL PROJECTS TO FILL THE COFFERS OF THE LARGER METROPOLITAN AREAS

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OF THIS STATE, NAMELY LOS ANGELES + SAN FRANCISCO. WE CONTINUE TO FEED THESE PEOPLE, WATER THEIR LAWNS AND WATCH THEIR PROPERTY VALUES RISE (↑), AS WE REMAIN TRAPPED IN AN ENCROACHINGLY, SMOG-INFESTED, ENVIRONMENTALLY COMPETITIVE ZONE WHERE OUR ECONOMIC FUTURE IS CONTROLLED BY PLANS, SUCH AS YOURS (WHERE OUR INPUT + OPINION IS BRUSHED ASIDE TO FAST-TRACK A DECISION).

PUT THIS PROJECT ON HOLD, CONSIDER THE "VOICE OF THE VALLEY FARMERS/RANCHERS" AND THINK THROUGH WHAT WATER RIGHTS ISSUES MAY IMPACT THE BOTTOM-LINE OF YOUR DECISION...

REGARDS,

MATTHEW N. TANNER

CC: SENATOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN
SENATOR BARBARA BOXER
GOVERNOR GRAY DAVIS
VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE