Mr. Alma Meinberg
3699 Chico St.
Chico, Calif. 95928

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

Re: Final Programmatic EIS/EIR.

Dear Mr. Ritchie,

We have farmed almonds in Butte County for 45 years. Water is an essential part of our farming. We are asking you to address our concerns regarding the Cal/Fed final document.

I. Your final report was released on July 21, 2000, with a final response day by August 21, 2000. This allows interested people only 31 days to thoroughly review a massive document, get answers to legal phrases and respond to Cal/Fed in Sacramento. This document was released in the busiest time of the year. It's harvest time! Does Cal/Fed realize that we work 7 days a week from daylight till dark during harvest. Was the release of this document - at this time - an oversight on your part? At least extend the response period and give us a chance to review the document and respond in a meaningful way.

II The budget for Cal/Fed is set at 8.6 billion dollars for the next 7 years. This provides 1.23 billion

dollars per year for the next 7 years. Can the taxpayers expect an annual report on this expenditure? Does any of this money go to environmental groups to buy up land along the Sacramento River? The funding is referred to as "Framework for Action" and funding to aggressively move forward solutions". This amount of money (8.6 billion) could provide alot of surface storage so we could provide water for irrigation and recreation, but also control flooding in the winter and drought in the summer. Sustained water flow would keep the river healthy.

Thank you for addressing our concerns and we look forward to discussing these concerns with you at a town meeting in the near future.

Sincerely,

Alma Menberg

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