

County of Sacramento Comments on CALFED Water Quality Program Implementation Priorities

monthly basis since December 1992. In addition, the SRWP began collecting data on these metals in June 1998.

2. CMARP should support monitoring by the SRWP

The solution approaches listed on page 128 should include support of ongoing trace metal monitoring that has started as part of the SRWP.

High Priority Implementation Items

The District recommends that high priority be given to the following actions.

1. Reduction of Mercury in the Sacramento River Watershed

Mercury is a parameter of critical concern in the watershed. It is both an aquatic life problem and a human health problem due to bioaccumulation effects in fish. Health advisories have been issued in San Francisco Bay for this reason, and high concentrations have also been found in fish in the Sacramento River. Actions described in the draft Program Plan should start now on this important issue.

2. Development of an improved analytical procedure for *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*

This should receive high priority as an information collection item due the importance being placed on these two pathogens at the same time that the present sampling and testing procedures result in data that is almost meaningless. Decisions made about pathogens must be based on sound scientific data and the current methods do not provide that. CALFED should support intensive research to correct this major problem quickly.

3. Support for existing monitoring in the Sacramento River Watershed

As noted above in this letter, support for the ongoing monitoring program developed by the SRWP will provide necessary information on many different issues in the watershed. For this reason funding from CMARP should be a high priority information collection item.

The District is pleased to provide these comments and looks forward to further contacts with CALFED in the future. If you have any questions about these comments please contact me at (916) 874-8239 or Jerry Troyan at (916) 875-9144.

Sincerely,



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Jtroyan/Orgnztns/CALFED