

MAY 27 1988

Honorable Donald P. Hodel
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

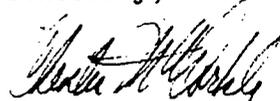
The Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Wayne Marchant, responded to my March 11, 1988, letter to you by inviting the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program Citizens Advisory Committee to provide written material for your use in considering repayment of Federal funds expended on San Joaquin Valley agricultural drainage problems. The enclosed policy statement presents the Committee's concensus position on repayment of Federal funds expended on Kesterson Reservoir cleanup, the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program, and forthcoming solutions to the drainage problem.

In summarizing the Committee's position, we believe the principal responsibility for the costs of Kesterson cleanup should be borne by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation without reimbursement from water users; the varied beneficiaries of the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program should bear responsibility for payment and/or repayment of drainage program costs which are fairly attributable to them; and, the costs of implementing solutions to drainage problems should generally be distributed by a formula which ties costs to benefits.

As I mentioned in my letter of March 11, 1988, the Committee represents a broad cross section of interests concerned with west side San Joaquin Valley agricultural drainage-related problems. We believe our concensus position on repayment issues reflects a fair representation of those interests and trust that the Policy Statement will be useful to you in the decisionmaking process.

Please contact me if we can provide further information or clarification of the Policy Statement.

Sincerely,


Chester McCorkle, Chair
Citizens Advisory Committee

Enclosure

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