

January 13, 1998



30.20.00 Robin  
pump 1/13/2001

Mr. Rick Woodard  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Rick:

I had a problem making phone contact with you so I am taking this opportunity to write about a few items that I think are important to discuss when we meet on February 10. On page 11 of the draft BDAC Meeting Summary dated November 4 and 5, 1997, you were quoted as follows after a comment by Mr. Buck that it would be difficult to deliver water from in-Delta storage: "Mr. Woodard replied that problems with in-Delta storage include the inundation of agricultural lands, the quality of drinking water and the small volume that would be available. He added that the operational aspects are similar to those for near-Delta storage."

I would specifically like to hear your view on the water quality issue given that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has gone on record indicating that "the wetter the better, the cooler the better."

DWR research also shows that reduced subsidence will be a predictable result of a wetter and cooler peat soil environment. I have never heard anyone quarreling with the concept that reduced subsidence also produces less potential for dissolved organic carbon discharges to the Delta. I would definitely like to hear the views of you and your staff on this issue when we meet.

Additionally, you indicated that there would only be a small volume of drinking water available. This implies that there have been operational models performed on in-Delta storage. I would like to see the results of those models.

Recall that in earlier publications, CALFED has indicated that groundwater storage should be the first priority to fill, off-stream storage the second to fill, on-stream storage the third to fill and in-Delta storage the last to fill. When we modeled in-Delta storage for the Delta Wetlands Project, we certainly treated it as a last priority.

CALFED has also indicated that groundwater should be used primarily to deal with dry and critically dry periods and that its yield should be measured on a drought period basis. At the other end of the spectrum, in-Delta storage would be treated on an average annual basis. Additionally, in-Delta storage would be the first to be discharged when the Delta went into control. This is far more liberal

3697 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Suite 100  
Lafayette, CA 94549  
tel 510.283.4216  
fax 510.283.4028

Mr. Rick Woodard  
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in terms of yield opportunities than how our project was modeled at the direction of the State Water Resources Control Board. I am anxious to review your view of CALFED's modeling efforts in view of the above discussion.

I think it would be very useful if your key water quality people were to review the water quality testimony brought forth in the Delta Wetlands water right hearing. You will find that it is the most comprehensive under-oath discussions that have taken place to date. You will also see that in our water right hearing, CUWA attempted to put forth a concept similar to the approach they are trying to foist off on CALFED. Congratulations on your effort to hold the line and be more consistent with what EPA has suggested.

I look forward to meeting with you and your staff on February 10. If you have any questions regarding the issues raised in this letter, please give me a call so that we will be best prepared to have useful discussions during our meeting.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John L. Winther.

John L. Winther  
President

JLW:kf

cc: Dr. Michael C. Kavanaugh  
Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.

January 13, 1998



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Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John L. Winther in cursive script, with the initials 'JLW' written below the signature.

John L. Winther  
President

JLW:kf

cc: Dr. Michael C. Kavanaugh  
Malcolm Pirnie, Inc.