

Date: Fri, 15 Aug 1997 12:32:23 -0700 (PDT)
From: Inge Werner <iwerner@ucdavis.edu>
X-Sender: szwerner@bullwinkle.ucdavis.edu
To: rwoodard@water.ca.gov
Subject: Comments on Calfed Draft Component Report (fwd)

Dear Rick,

Unfortunately, I had very little time to work on comments for the draft component report this last week, but I'd like to bring up the following points:

1. Disinfection of drinking water supplies/peripheral canal:
We'd very much like to see a detailed calculation of costs for various methods of disinfecting drinking water supplies. All I ever heard was that ozonation and filtration are too expensive and somebody gave some gross numbers at the meeting, but I'd like to see the calculations this statement is based on. Many groups around the world do research on improved ozonation techniques and I'm sure the bromate problem has been addressed, and could be solved by optimizing the reaction processes. Since the disinfection process is the one single problem causing step (formation of trihalomethanes), it would be worth to take a very good look at alternative methods. I'd especially like to see a detailed cost calculation where the construction of a peripheral canal is weighed against introducing alternative disinfection methods.

2. Action strategies:
Actions to be promoted by Calfed include toxicity testing of Delta/River water using the three-species toxicity bioassays. This is presently the best choice for determining toxicity of bioavailable pollutants, but Calfed should also support the development of bioassays using resident, if possible native species. This would help considerably in making bioassay more convincing indicators of toxicity.

3. Target ranges for water quality parameters, in particular pollutants which bioaccumulate must take this accumulation potential into account. Looking only at acutely toxic effects completely ignores serious potential long term effects, e.g. reproductive effects, that many of these compounds are known for (e.g. cadmium, selenium).

Rick, I'm sending these comments to you and I hope that's alright. I'm not sure who else to send it to. Please forward this message to the appropriate person.

Thanks and
best regards,

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