

**Summary of Meeting
Transfers Agency Group
June 11, 1997**

Key Discussion Items

- Review and discussion of the draft list of fundamental assumption and draft list of water transfer issues.
- Review and discussion of the revised draft water transfer discussion paper.
- Discussion of a draft deliberative process for the group to follow.

Issues and Discussion Points

- There was general agreement that there needs to be a clear understanding of the role of this agency group, especially in relation to the planned BDAC Transfers Work Group. Three key roles were thought to be appropriate. These included:
 - Act as staff for the BDAC Work Group to: define existing system and regulations, work with stakeholder groups on technical issues, and provide options for new or revised policy.
 - Resolve some technical and policy issues internally among agencies.
 - Provide advice and recommendations to the respective agency managers on the first two items.
- The group felt there needs to be a definition for “water transfers” and “water markets” so it is well understood under what context each is being discussed.
- There was general consensus on the draft deliberative process outlined in the June 10, 1997 memo from Rick Soehren.
- Some concern was expressed over the current portrayal of issues in the draft list. Rick Soehren is looking for the agency representatives to help draft short discussion papers on each issue to help better define them and provide proposed options for improvement. There was significant discussion on the best process to draft papers while ensuring accurate representation of issues and views. Draft discussion papers will also be provided to the BDAC Work Group as an initial look at the water transfer issues.
- The question was raised regarding the purpose of the discussion paper. The discussion paper is a working document to help address the issues and look at the world of options. It will also be provided to the BDAC Work Group as a resource and for further refinement. It is not anticipated that this document or any revision of it would be inserted into the Phase II Alternative Description report. A different paper, characterizing the transfer element, will be drafted later in this process to be inserted into the Phase II document.
- Concern was expressed that neither this group nor the BDAC transfer group has the luxury of time to fully debate some of the potential issues. Developing consensus on a transfer component in such a limited time frame may prove to be difficult.
- Several additional issues were raised by members that should be incorporated into the list of issues needing to be addressed and resolved. Some of these are subsets of issues already

DRAFT

listed. CALFED staff should look at these suggested issues and incorporate them as appropriate.

Action Items

- CALFED staff will develop a list of invited participants for the BDAC Work Group which will include one state and one federal representative selected from this group.
- CALFED staff will prepare draft discussion papers for issues 1,4,5,6, and 7. Jerry Johns and other SWRCB staff will prepare initial draft papers for issues 2,3 and 8. All drafts are to be completed by June 25, 1997 and provided to Rick Soehren. These drafts will be distributed to the group prior or at the next scheduled meeting.
- All group members are to provide Rick Soehren, Mike Heaton, and Jerry Johns with comments and initial thoughts by Friday, June 20, 1997.
- CALFED staff will revise the draft list of fundamental assumptions including:
 - add more positive wording to why CALFED must address the transfer issue, and
 - remove the term "current" from assumption #4 and modify to indicate the possibility of evolution of agency responsibilities.
- CALFED staff will revise the draft water transfers discussion paper including:
 - emphasize state-federal nature of transfers policy, with less emphasis on state background,
 - remove the term "market" from the discussion of water transfer element objectives, and
 - modify the discussion of essential elements of a water market to establish appropriate context.

The next meeting of the Transfers Agency Group is scheduled for July 3, 1997, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Resources Building (location to be determined).