

Memorandum

Date: November 4, 1999

To: (See distribution list)

From: Steve Ritchie 
Acting Executive Director

Subject: Meeting to Review Draft §404 Clean Water Act Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for CALFED Facilities

CALFED will be holding a facilitated meeting to discuss and solicit feedback on the draft §404 MOA currently under development by CALFED.

Many of the actions necessary to implement the CALFED Bay-Delta Program require §404 permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). These actions potentially range from major, highly controversial projects, such as new surface water storage facilities, to minor discharges associated with wetland and riparian restoration projects.

It is critical to the success of the Program that an effective strategy for obtaining §404 permits for this diverse range of potential actions be developed and agreed to prior to the Record of Decision for the Program. One element of this strategy is the development of an MOA by which major facilities needing §404 permits will be evaluated under the §404(b)(1) Guidelines. A description of the proposed elements of the MOA were published in the revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report. A copy of the pages from the DEIS/EIR containing this information are enclosed (Pages 8-5 through 8-7).

Program staff have been working with USACE and USEPA to develop the language for the MOA. A copy of the most recent draft is enclosed. CALFED, USACE and USEPA staff will be available at the meeting to discuss the current form and content of the draft document. We encourage you to attend the meeting to voice your concerns and to provide feedback on the current document.

CALFED Agencies

California The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board
Department of Food and Agriculture

Federal Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Geological Survey
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration

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The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, 1999, 1:30 p.m., in Room 1131 at the CALFED office. We look forward to your participation in this process.

Attachments

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