

CALFED Policy Group

**May 13, 1999
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Resources Building
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1131
Sacramento**



Memorandum

Date: May 6, 1999

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow

Subject: May 13 Policy Group Meeting

The next meeting of the CALFED Policy Group will be held on Thursday, May 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Room 1131 of the State Resources Building. The primary purpose of this meeting is to obtain Policy Group consent for a June 1 print date for the draft revised EIS/R. While many components of the EIS/R have been refined with extensive input and assistance from your respective agencies, certain essential components of the Program still require your specific concurrence next week. Most significantly, we will be seeking your approval of two central features of Stage I activities: a proposed package of South Delta improvements and the essential elements of an Environmental Water Account. Members of your respective agencies have been working together over the past several months to bring proposals to you which reflect thorough technical analysis conducted in a collaborative environment.

You will also be asked to concur on the overall CALFED Water Management Strategy, specifically the overall framework and objectives of the strategy. Both the South Delta proposal and the Environmental Water Account are essential features of the Water Management Strategy, You will find written materials on all of these components of the Water Management Strategy attached here.

In addition, we will be asking for your concurrence on the draft Conservation Strategy and the draft 404 Compliance Memorandum of Understanding. Enclosed in your packet is a memo summarizing central features of the Conservation Strategy. The 404 Compliance Strategy and draft MOA are still being refined by CALFED agencies. A complete draft will be available for you at the meeting next week.

CALFED Agencies

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

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

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service

CALFED Policy Group
May 6, 1999
Page Two

The draft plans for CALFED Governance and Finance will not be ready for your approval next Thursday. However, revised draft plans will be available for you at your places on the 13th. We will also have a status report for you on both plans. We are anticipating also that a number of you will have attended the discussion of these programs at the afternoon session of the BDAC meeting on May 12th to help inform the Policy Group discussion. We will also propose a review and comment schedule for both plans at the meeting.

As you all know, the revised EIS/R will include a revised Phase II Report. As you will also remember, last December the Phase II Report became the locus of intense agency and stakeholder feedback and refinement.. We will have the first revised version of the Phase II Report ready for your and your agencies' review beginning the week of May 17th. As before, we anticipate both significant agency and key stakeholder comment and refinement on the revised report, since it will contain a new section outlining the overall CALFED strategy in much greater detail. We will present a proposed schedule and process for completion of the Phase II Report next Thursday.

I look forward to a productive meeting.