

**CALFED Policy Group
Public Meeting**

**April 19, 2000
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Sacramento Convention Center
1300 J Street, Room 302-3
Sacramento**



M e m o r a n d u m

Date: April 12, 2000
 To: CALFED Policy Group
 From: Steven R. Ritchie
 Acting Executive Director 
 Subject: April 19, 2000 Policy Group Meeting

The next meeting of the CALFED Policy Group will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2000, in Sacramento, in Room 302-3 of the Sacramento Convention Center. The meeting is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A draft agenda is attached.

While you will not be asked to make any policy decisions at this meeting, we are anticipating some important discussion, both on the Preferred Program Alternative, as well as key components of the CALFED Program. You will hear a report from the final deliberations of the Bay-Delta Advisory Council on the Preferred Alternative. As you recall from your last meeting on February 23, 2000, BDAC was considering an amended Preferred Alternative for submittal to the Policy Group. Over the last month, BDAC members have submitted their suggestions for strengthening the Preferred Alternative and the assurances necessary for accomplishment of the CALFED Program objectives. They will be discussing these provisions at their meeting on April 13, 2000, when the Chair and Vice-chair hope to develop a consensus recommendation, which they will then submit to you on April 19. Please refer to the enclosed February 22, 2000, memo from BDAC Chairman Mike Madigan, which includes some of the original BDAC members' proposals for strengthening the Preferred Alternative.

You will also receive a briefing on the preliminary conclusions from the evaluation framework that has been developed for the Water Management Strategy. These conclusions illuminate the relative performance of different combinations of water management tools in achieving the objectives of the CALFED Program. It will highlight for you the trade-offs associated with your policy direction on the preferred mix of storage, water transfers and water use efficiency in meeting the multiple and interrelated CALFED objectives of improved water supply reliability, improved drinking water quality and improved fisheries protection. These findings, based on some of the most ambitious and comprehensive modeling analyses ever attempted, should provide you with a strong analytical basis for your water management policy choices.

CALFED Agencies

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| <p>California</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <p>Federal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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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In addition to the Water Management Strategy evaluation framework, we have scheduled a briefing for you on progress to date on developing the details for a functional Environmental Water Account.

The meeting agenda will also include an update on 2000 water operations from both federal and state project operators. Finally, you will receive a report from CALFED state agency representatives on the implications for CALFED of the passage of ballot Propositions 12 and 13. I look forward to meeting with you on April 19. Your meeting packet includes the following:

- ◆ Draft Agenda
- ◆ Executive Director's Report
- ◆ February 23, 2000 Meeting Outcomes
- ◆ February 22, 2000 Memo from BDAC
- ◆ Miscellaneous Correspondence