

September 12, 1997

Roger Patterson
Regional Director
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
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Dear Roger:

In a conversation we had at last week's BDAC meeting, you indicated that the Bureau would be willing to set forth in a letter to EDF, hopefully in detail and with precision, the total amount of CVP-related water which the Westlands Water District has been receiving over the last several years. For comparison, we would also appreciate your giving us the same information over life of the Bureau-Westlands' contract.

I know that you will understand EDF's interest in this matter. As I stated in my BDAC remarks, Westlands (and the Bureau) for many years have made a steady stream of public representations about the water shortages Westlands has allegedly suffered as the purported result of environmentally-inspired regulatory and project operations constraints.

It is only recently, however, that Westlands' actual water deliveries have been publicly disclosed to be far in excess of their contractual entitlement. The enclosed chart from a recent Westlands newsletter is one such disclosure that has been widely distributed to interested persons.

Steve Ottemoeller of Westlands, in a brief memo to Barry Nelson (also enclosed), sought to provide a breakdown of some of the numbers contained in the newsletter table. Do these numbers jibe with the Bureau's own records? And might a bit more detail be forthcoming?

I am particularly interested in what counts as "CVP" and what as "non-CVP" water in Westlands' calculations and in your own. To the extent Westlands' deliveries are of non-CVP water and Westlands is accessing a burgeoning water rights market in California to supplement its taxpayer-subsidized Bureau water supply, that is a development worthy of widespread support and much broader public acknowledgment and dissemination. If, however, Westlands is

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