

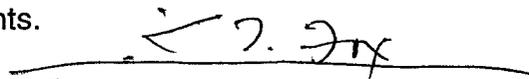
3/19/98

Presentation to Bay-Delta Advisory Committee

My name is Sterling Fox. I am an elected Board member - serving as President - of the Yorba Linda Water District in Orange County, and I am here today in my capacity as Alternate Chairman of Region 10 of the Association of California Water Agencies, which is composed of San Diego and Orange Counties.

1. There are three elements in the CALFED process that are of bottom-line significance to Orange County
 - a. The necessity for Delta export water to be of the **highest possible quality**: Two reasons:
 - 1) Proficiency of reclaimed water systems
 - 2) Need to deal with coming EPA requirements dealing with disinfection byproducts. Southern California will be the heaviest-hit region on costs of a CALFED solution. To add water treatment costs due to only adequate water quality from the Delta will increase the burden and the risk of public support,
 - b. **Certainty of delivery**. The patchwork approach of the past due to pumping and water quality problems of the Delta was expensive to southern California. In this respect any one of the three alternatives would be an improvement over the past.
 - c. The necessity of the CALFED process to **provide so-called "new" water**. There are two elements of the CALFED process that would advance that goal. However, both those elements have only been briefly discussed by the Bay Delta Advisory Committee, as reflected in your past minutes.
 - One element deals with operational efficiency – which preferred alternative best meets criteria by which the Delta can most efficiently operate?
 - The second element is water marketing or water transfers as used in BDAC terminology. Water transfers are important to both ecosystem and water supply reliability. However, water marketing provides perhaps the greatest source of "new" water supplies. To implement a system of water marketing requires not only institutional changes but also the need to spell out water rights, especially to maintain agriculture, and water quality protection. Yet, BDAC has barely touched these issues.

The members of ACWA's Region 10 urge BDAC to accelerate discussions on the relationship of CALFED alternatives to Delta operational efficiency and water supply provisions, including especially a water-marketing system. ACWA Region 10 believes that urban, agricultural and environmental interests as well as Southern California and northern rural counties have common interest in both these elements.


STERLING L. FOX