

FRESNO
6/18/98

Bay Delta Advisory Committee
Calfed Bay-Delta Program
1415 Ninth, St Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subjects: Monitoring, Liaisoning for Efficiency and Credibility

Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee:

I have previously discussed the need for a separate organization for monitoring of RFPs for:

- o long term results may differ from immediate successes - or failures
- o take the monitoring function from the RFP which may skew analysis
- o monitoring functions of an RFP can end up with the tail wagging the boondogle
- o independence begets credibility

As for complete monitoring of the watershed itself, it is not necessary at this time:

- o There are other organizations which have monitoring functions and duplication need not occur.
- o The inhouse syndrome could occur in Calfed
- o Agencies monitoring the Sierra and the Pacific Salmon could have input from Calfed concerning the estuary by cooperative liaisoning.
- o What may be needed is a co-ordinating organization for various bodys' mutual benefit.

Liaisoning with specialized organizations, rather than full membership, would keep Calfed to a manageable size. I will note two examples, one for each monitoring group.

- 1)The Dept of Defence may be able to aid project monitoring, by loan of specialized equipment for fish counting in murky conditions. Maybe not, but you won't know without contact.
- 2)The Departments of Agriculture have organizations and experience that could be helpful in programs such as monitoring bait imports and ship ballast tanks and, perhaps, applying Roetenone for exotic control.

These two reporting organizations with monitoring functions should have a balance of detachment and cooperation to maintain functionality and credibility.

It may be instructive by giving an example of negative parameter. It is from THE LOST GOSPEL OF THE EARTH by Tom Hayden, which you may find amusing in its assessment of you. The book is a Sierra Club publication and found in the library under 921.1, the Dewey system classification for cults. While input from the author and his organization may be mandated, association may not be wise:

- o It may appear to violate adherence to the first amendment separation of religion and government.
- o The book shows opposition to Calfed. There is no standard disclaimer by the publisher.
- o An agenda of New Age religion does not coincide with Calfed purposes.
- o Neither does one of agrarian reform politics.
- o Recreation is a legitimate function of the bay, delta and rivers. It is appropriate to note H L Menken's statement concerning neo-Puritans that they are concerned that someone, somewhere, may be having a good time. Support by the recreating public is mandatory to your success.

Therefore, association could hinder both Calfed's function and credibility. While the various stakeholders of Calfed includes a spectrum of environmentally concerned organizations, and while there will be conflicts of interests between these and other Calfed organizations, it is paramount that they be not mentally associated with such an organization by both fellow committee members or the public. This bifurcation will:

- o facilitate dialogue within the committee
- o maintain public support for Calfed, especially to disassociate its bonding proposals from those of previous buy-in schemes.
- o Finally, I feel compelled to use the "p" word, in reminding the committee that some self-styled environmental organizations are only peripherally concerned with the environment.

Sincerely,

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