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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

June 29, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow
Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow,

As one Member of Congress who represents the citizens of Santa Clara County, I am writing to share my views with you about the CALFED Bay-Delta program. This letter is not an endorsement of any one alternative over another, but rather, I wish to convey my support of a process that maintains the economic vitality of our region while protecting the environment of Santa Clara County. I seek to promote a balanced, affordable and equitable CALFED solution that strives to achieve our long term water needs.

Santa Clara County is the heart of Silicon Valley, the global capital of high technology and the engine that drives the Nation's economy. It is also home to over 1.6 million residents, who along with commercial, municipal and industrial users, share and value a safe, clean and high-quality water source. The region's water supply agencies and the high technology industry have invested greatly in advanced water treatment technologies to meet the rigorous regulatory standards and manufacturing requirements. As drinking water standards become more stringent there is an inherent need for a water system that provides quality water for all uses -- residential, industrial and municipal purposes including environmental enhancements.

The Silicon Valley is dependent on a reliable and consistent source of high-quality water. Santa Clara County relies heavily on water imported from the Bay-Delta watershed deriving over one-half of our supply. During the last decade of uncertain weather patterns -- from extensive droughts to El Nino winters -- our local industries and residents have implemented effective programs in water conservation and recycling. The County will continue every effort to use water efficiently, as demonstrated by recent local action to encourage water conservation in residential uses to reduce the flow of discharge to the Bay. The Valley's citizens should receive support for past water efficiency programs, and its efforts should be promoted by financial investments in cooperative effort for Bay-Delta water supply.

The CALFED objective of restoring the Bay-Delta to a healthy, functioning ecosystem is an objective shared by all the water stakeholders in Santa Clara County. As water users from this critical Bay-Delta system, our industries and residential users accept the responsibility to minimize any impact on the natural resources of the Bay Delta. As a good steward of the water systems,

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the high tech companies, the private citizen and the municipal users of water in Santa Clara County will continue to seek innovative ways to protect and restore this ecosystem. The public and private sector share in that responsibility as demonstrated in our investment in reducing point and non-point sources of discharge into the Bay. The South Bay is an integral part of the entire San Francisco Bay-Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta Estuary, and our citizens should share in the responsibility of overall quality of the Bay region. However, our communities in Santa Clara County should not be isolated in the water decision process because of our location in the system. The CALFED should include the South Bay in allocating ecosystem restoration and water quality program funding.

As CALFED planning moves forward, I support the program's continuing effort to engage every stakeholder into the decision making process. It is important to keep all of the options open as the debate on the merits of each component continues and as each stakeholder strives to find a consensus for a preferred alternative. I respectfully urge CALFED to employ its inclusive management approach in all aspects of the program to ensure that short term actions result in a long term solution. The final product should be a packaged water plan that is equitable, affordable, and effective in achieving full consensus for all stakeholders. Thank you in advance for considering my views in this very important public policy matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Campbell", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Tom Campbell
Member of Congress