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June 30, 1999

Alex Hildebrand
23443 S. Hays Road
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Dear Alex:

Thank you for your May 10, 1999 letter in which you suggested that all proposals for modifying operations in the San Joaquin River basin should await the development of a comprehensive plan to address all of the water related problems in the watershed.

In this letter and in previous communications, you have effectively articulated the potential pitfalls of uncoordinated implementation of various actions.

CALFED shares your concerns and is therefore devoting a great deal of effort to coordination among stakeholder groups and agencies, consideration of the interactions between various proposed actions, and approaches to linking them to achieve the goal of regional incremental improvements in all resource categories.

However, CALFED believes it is prudent and necessary to move forward with high priority actions after full public discussion, environmental review and consideration of various concerns, despite some uncertainties. Careful coordination of implementation actions, coupled with ongoing adjustments in accordance with the principles of adaptive management, will serve to minimize unexpected impacts. Further discussion of these issues as we move forward will be encouraged.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

CALFED Agencies

California
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

Federal
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

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration