



Memorandum

Date: September 2, 1999
To: Bay-Delta Advisory Council
From: Lester A. Snow
Subject: Governance

Summary

CALFED staff, agencies, and stakeholders are continuing to work on the refinement of the interim governing structure and development of the long term governing structure. Described below is progress to date.

Detailed Discussion

Interim Governance Update and Request for BDAC Action

Since the last BDAC meeting, several changes to the current governing structure have been adopted (See attachment A). For example, the Policy Group has decided that their meetings will be held in a public forum. Policy Group also decided to have up to eight representatives of BDAC participate "at the table." The first public Policy Group meeting for 1999 was held on August 12 in Sacramento and about a third of the BDAC members attended the meeting.

BDAC representation at Policy Group Meetings

At the August 12 meeting Policy Group asked BDAC to recommend a process for its ongoing participation in Policy Group meetings. Specifically, BDAC was asked to develop procedures for identifying the BDAC members who will participate at Policy Group meetings. BDAC may want to consider the following options:

1. Select members to attend based on the agenda items chosen for each Policy Group meeting. Either all members could rotate for each meeting or a portion would be permanent and a portion would rotate based on the agenda for each meeting. This option increases the opportunity for those BDAC members with the most knowledge on particular issues to fully participate at the Policy Group meetings.

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

2. Select a representative cross section of members to serve on an annual basis. This option provides the continuity for members to develop working relationships with Policy Group members and develop a more detailed understanding of the overall program.
3. Randomly rotate members --such as going in alphabetical order . This option allows all members to participate in Policy Group meetings.

BDAC Action

Decision Item

BDAC is being asked to determine the process for selecting ex-officio members for the Policy Group meetings.

Detailed Discussion

Long-term Governance

With assistance from the California Environmental Trust (CET), CALFED has been working with Policy Group members and stakeholders to develop a long term governance proposal for CALFED. In early September, CET and CALFED are convening a small meeting of stakeholders and policy group members to discuss long term governance. To serve as a starting point for discussions, CALFED staff asked CET to draft a governance proposal.

The CET draft proposal, prepared for discussion purposes, proposes a new CALFED commission established in state and federal law, to conduct the oversight functions, and the program management and coordination functions for each program area (ecosystem, water management, levees, water quality). The direct implementation of the actions would in most cases still rest with existing state, federal local or private organizations.

CALFED will provide BDAC, prior to the September 17 meeting, a copy of the CET draft proposal, after the draft has been discussed in the small group meeting. The BDAC Governance Workgroup will discuss the draft proposal at its meeting on September 14. At the meeting the Workgroup will review and develop comments on the proposal which will be reported to BDAC at the meeting on September 17th.

At the September 17th meeting, BDAC may be asked to provide a recommendation to the Policy Group on the draft long-term governance proposal. A framework for a governance proposal needs to be ready by October, 1999 for legislative hearings and bill introduction deadlines, assuming the proposal requires state legislation to implement.