



Memorandum

Date: March 3, 2000
To: Bay-Delta Advisory Council Members
From: Eugenia Laychak, BDAC Coordinator
Subject: Draft Motion on Preferred Program Alternative

RESPONSE: Due March 23, 2000 to my attention at the CALFED offices

Mike Madigan and Sunne McPeak asked that I help facilitate BDAC's review of and changes to the motion BDAC began crafting at the February 17, 2000 meeting. They would like each BDAC member to review the proposed motion in Mike's February 23, 2000 memo (enclosed) and provide any changes by March 23, 2000. They will revise the motion, based on your comments, and bring it forward to BDAC at its next meeting on April 13, 2000 for discussion and possible endorsement.

Enclosed background materials include written comments from Alex Hildebrand, the CALFED Preferred Program Alternative (also in February 17 packet), and overheads which summarize the Preferred Program Alternative and related actions. For information on CALFED implementation please refer to the Implementation Plan in the Revised Draft EIS/EIR (June 1999).

Background

At the February 17, 2000 BDAC meeting the Council assessed the strengths and weaknesses of the CALFED Preferred Program Alternative. At the end of the discussion, BDAC began drafting a statement endorsing the Preferred Program Alternative, and listing areas for future improvement. Mike and Sunne committed to refining the statement and bringing the revisions to BDAC at its next meeting. They would like your help in crafting the revisions.

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

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When preparing your comments, I would like to suggest two important points to consider. First, the Preferred Alternative is programmatic, and thus, is very general. Within the Preferred Alternative are many options for implementing the program. The broad nature of the Alternative has been a continuing source of frustration which Mike and Sunne suggest be dealt with by recommending aggressive progress on implementation issues important to BDAC members.

Second, the CALFED Program has been struggling to develop a solution that meets the needs of the interested parties. When crafting your comments, consider the interests of the groups represented on BDAC. For example, would your suggestion, if adopted, adversely impact another interest group? If so, is there another suggestion that would meet your needs and the needs of that interest group; or at least, not adversely affect the other interests?

I will forward your comments to Mike and Sunne. Thank you for your cooperation.