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JUL 27 1995

July 20, 1995

Mr. Lester Snow, Program Manager
CAL-FED
Suite 1155, 1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Snow:



The Bay-Delta Estuary is nationally recognized both as an important feature of the state's environment and an important component of the state's water supply system.

Last December, the state and federal governments and some important agricultural, urban and environmental water interests established a process to develop a comprehensive and long-term resource management solution to stabilize, protect, restore and enhance the Bay-Delta Estuary. That process, known as CAL-FED, will work to develop a comprehensive and balanced plan which addresses all of the resource problems. The State Water Resources Control Board has approved the interim standards that were part of that agreement.

To show the Legislature's support for this effort I introduced AJR 30 which requires the CAL-FED program to provide the Legislature with semiannual status reports. The Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Assembly and Senate Water Committees are co-authors.

Several water districts in the Central Valley are concerned that the stakeholders who negotiated the December agreement did not represent all impacted California water interests. They assert the result of implementation of the agreement could jeopardize their senior water rights.

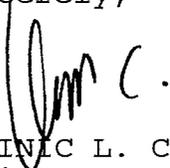
To obtain a better understanding of how this issue is being addressed and to get a status report on the Bay-Delta program I have scheduled a special hearing of the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks & Wildlife on August 1, 1995, in Stockton at the U. C. Ag Extension Office, 420 South Wilson Way. This hearing is not intended to interfere with any pending legal action but to give the committee and the community a better understanding of the CAL-FED program.

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I invite you to present your views on this crucial program. In particular, I ask that you address the current work program and timeline for the CAL-FED program, including the roles and activities of the technical and advisory groups.

If you have any questions regarding the hearing, please contact Anne Baker of my staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Cortese", written over the typed name.

DOMINIC L. CORTESE
Chairman

DLC:ab:mm

Enclosure