



**CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM**

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To: CALFED

From: Lester A. Snow, Executive Director  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

*Sharon for Snow*

Subject: Update of Activities

**Upcoming CALFED Meeting**

The next CALFED meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 1995, in room 1131, at the Resources Building. The Executive Session will meet from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. and the Public Session from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. In addition to the regular agenda items, Bob Potter, will provide a summary of the South Delta Project and a presentation will be made on the Battle Creek Restoration Project. All CALFED agencies should have provided their critiques or comments on the South Delta Administrative Draft EIR to Bob Potter. Additionally, we will have a presentation by Michelle Pla, from the City of San Francisco, on the status of the Central California Recycling Project (during the Public session).

Draft agendas for these meetings are attached for your comment (Attachment 1).

**Category III Activities**

The Category III Steering Committee convened its first meeting on August 9, and met subsequently on September 5. Representatives from environmental, fishery, Federal, State, agricultural and urban interests attended. The Steering Committee has taken the following actions: approving the eight near-term projects selected by the Ad-Hoc Workgroup; selecting a chairperson (Tim Quinn/CUWA) and vice-chairperson (Patrick Wright/EPA); expanding the membership to four seats each for CUWA and AG representatives; and adopting a set of operating rules. Over the next six-month period the Committee will focus on establishing the Category III institutional framework which includes establishing both a long-term Category III implementation plan and a process to develop a long-term vision for Category III that is consistent with and coordinated with the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, the implementation of CVPIA and other State and Federal processes. Additionally, the Committee will provide the necessary oversight for the eight approved projects.

**CALFED Agencies**

**California**

The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Water Resources  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
State Water Resources Control Board

**Federal**

Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service

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At the next Steering Committee, to be held on September 29, 1995, items that will be addressed include adopting a Management Plan for the eight approved projects, adopting a set of agreement principles that will be incorporated into funding contracts for the eight projects, and addressing the need to hire a Program Manager.

The Category III MOU has been signed by Contra Costa Water District, Metropolitan Water District, East Bay MUD, Santa Clara Valley Water District, San Diego Water Authority, San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority, and the Northern California Water Association. A notice of intent to sign was sent by the Nature Conservancy, the Bay Institute, the Natural Heritage Institute, the Environmental Defense Fund and the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance. The Steering Committee has discussed planning a press event in October to commemorate the signing and to kick-off the process.

#### NEPA/CEQA MOU's

An MOU for the development of an EIS on the CALFED Bay-Delta Program among the Federal agencies has been developed and circulated for comments. Additionally, an MOU between the State and Federal agencies has also been developed and is currently being distributed for comment. These MOU's will describe the roles and responsibilities of the Federal and State agencies and the CALFED Bay-Delta Program in developing and carrying out the NEPA/CEQA process.

#### CALFED Bay-Delta Program Coordination Team

The Program Coordination Team is comprised of representatives from all the Federal and State agencies who are part of CALFED. The Army Corp of Engineers also participates as part of the team. The objective of this group is to serve as a sounding board and to provide agency input into products produced by the Program staff. The Coordination Team meets once a month, usually before a scheduled workshop. The input from the Coordination Team has proved to be invaluable in providing direction and assistance to the program staff. We have provided materials for review, often with very tight review schedules, and have received high quality reviews from staff. This technical review and evaluation is critical to our process. It is also critical to alert the Program Team if we have omitted information or inaccurately characterized some of the issues. At each phase of the program, we will require technical review of the products produced by the Program Team. Keep up the good work Coordination Team!!!

The primary agency liaisons with the Coordination Team are currently reviewing the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Plan and Budget. Subsequent to this initial review, we will provide the Program Plan and Budget to CALFED for comment and approval.

### **CALFED Bay-Delta Program - Update on Implementation of the Plan of Action**

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program Team has been extremely busy trying to stay in front of our aggressive public outreach program which includes public workshops once a month. This schedule has forced us to plan about a month in advance to ensure that the proper technical materials are prepared, reviewed and distributed well before each workshop. The Program Team has worked through the first two Tasks described in the Plan of Action which include problem definition, objective development, and refinement of the mission statement and geographic scope during the first two public workshops. We are completing a Problem Definition working paper which will be ready for staff review within the next two weeks. This working paper will describe the process and include information concerning problem definition and program objectives. General performance measures are currently being developed and specific performance measures will be developed as we refine the objectives. Attached is a graphic which describes the process in a non-linear fashion and attempts to show the relationship between the steps in the process (Attachment 2).

We are currently working on Task 3, developing, evaluating and refining actions and action categories for the next public workshop in October. Additionally, we are "brainstorming" on a regular basis to identify synergistic or compatible actions and action categories that meet multiple objectives. We are attempting to identify and group these actions into alternative packages that address multiple objectives to create "win-win" solutions. At the upcoming CALFED meeting, we will present a brief summary of potential solution strategies and preliminary alternative packages to keep CALFED agencies informed as to the general direction we are taking as we move into Tasks 4 and 5 in the Plan of Action.

### **CALFED Bay-Delta Program Public Workshops**

The second CALFED Bay-Delta Program Public Workshop was held on Thursday, September 14, 1995, at the Hilton Hotel in Sacramento. The purpose of the workshop was to review problem definitions discussed at the first workshop, and to develop and refine objectives. The workshop was attended by about 80 individuals representing a wide range

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of interests including agency staff, BDAC members, urban water agencies, agricultural interests, environmental interests, and consultants. Almost all of the CALFED agencies were represented and agency staff provided significant and valuable input into the workshop.

The next public workshop has been scheduled for Thursday, October 12, 1995, at the Beverly Garland Hotel in Sacramento. The principle objective of this workshop will be identification of solution action categories and measures to evaluate the performance of the actions. Additionally, we will begin identifying and evaluating relationships between problems and causes.

The first two workshops have been very successful. The workshop participants are motivated, have accepted the process described in the Plan of Action, and are providing valuable information to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program in shaping and defining the alternatives to be evaluated in the next Tier of the process. Primary concerns continue to be expectations as to the level of detail that will be evaluated in the Programmatic EIS/EIR and the tendency of some participants to focus on single components and not look at the program components holistically.

#### **CALFED Bay-Delta Program Public Meetings**

The first CALFED Bay-Delta Program Public Meeting will be held in Stockton on Tuesday, September 26, 1995, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Stockton Inn, 4219 Waterloo Road, Stockton, CA. The objective of these public meetings is to involve and inform the public about planning activities and results of the public workshops. The public meetings will also provide the general public with the opportunity to comment and make suggestions as the first phase of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is developed. All the public meetings will be held in the evenings. Five public meetings have been scheduled through early 1996: Stockton, September 26; Oakland, October 25; Costa Mesa, November 28; Redding, December 19; and Fresno, January 24.

#### **BDAC Meeting -- October 18, 1995**

The next BDAC meeting will be held on October 18, 1995, in the Bay area at the Holiday Inn Oakland/San Francisco Bay Bridge on 1800 Powell Street in Emeryville, CA. The

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objective of this meeting will be to review the problem definition, objectives, mission and geographic scope; identify solution action categories and measures to evaluate the performance of the actions; and introduce the solution strategies for developing alternative packages. A draft agenda is attached for CALFED comment (Attachment 3).

### **Stakeholder Activities**

The Stakeholder group has been meeting on a regular basis and have formed several smaller focus groups to address specific areas that they feel need attention. These groups include: the Ecosystems and Facilities Committee, the Legal and Institutional Committee, and the Financial Strategy Committee. The Ecosystem and Facilities Committee has met several times and has begun to draft delta solution alternatives for discussion by the Stakeholders. The Legal and Institutional Committee has also met and begun focussing on transfers and other institutional issues. The Financial Strategy Committee has not yet held a meeting.

Attachments