



**CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM**

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(916) 657-2666
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June 4, 1996

Mr. Robert E. Boyden
6140 Kanaka Avenue
Oroville, CA 95966

Dear Mr. Boyden:

Thank you for your letter of April 29, 1996 regarding your comments on Phase I. Taking the time to relay your thoughts on this aspect of our Program is truly appreciated.

Staff has reviewed your comments and suggestions and they are part of our public comment record. They are being considered as we continue forward in our process.

One of your comments suggested consideration of a submerged salinity control mechanism. This type of mechanism was considered early in the process because it could restrict co-mingling of the fresh waters of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and the saline waters of the San Francisco Bay. In addition, it would permit pumping from the freshwater pool formed by the barrier for local water supplies and export requirements. Studies on this concept dates back to the 1880's. A report by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District, entitled "Technical Reports on Barriers" dated July of 1963 considered a multitude of such proposals.

The submerged salinity control mechanism was not carried forward for further consideration because of its various significant detrimental effects, some of which are:

- Changing the character of the San Francisco Bay habitat by eliminating the estuarine habitat to the detriment of the existing fauna and flora,
- Restricting the migration path of anadramous fisheries, including winter-run Chinook Salmon and preventing the acclimatization of migratory fish,
- Increased tide elevations adjacent to the main barrier requiring additional mitigative measures,
- Entrainment of industrial effluents in the freshwater pool, and
- Municipal drainage systems will require physical improvements.

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

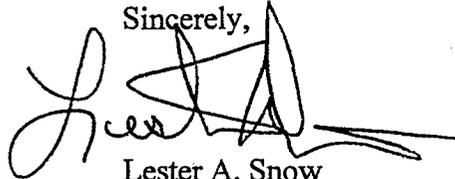
Robert E. Boyden
June 4, 1996
Page Two

All of the concerns stated above lead us to believe that this barrier proposal does not meet the multiple objectives of the Program. Additionally, we do not believe that such a proposal satisfies the range of Solution Principles which we have adopted for our Program.

As you are aware, the currently proposed alternatives have been subjected to extensive public and internal scrutiny. Your comments are appreciated and further emphasize the need for a successful completion of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

Again, we welcome your interest in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and look forward to your continued involvement in this important effort. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Victor Pacheco at (916) 657-2666.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lester A. Snow", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lester A. Snow
Executive Director