



Memorandum

Date: June 19, 1996

To: A. J. Yates, Deputy Secretary
Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Subject: Bay-Delta Solution Alternatives

Thank you for your recent letter which offered some constructive suggestions on our ten alternatives. These suggestions were helpful to us during our efforts to reformulate those ten alternatives into our three preliminary Phase II alternatives. Thank you also for suggesting representatives from your Department to our Program Coordination Team. Steve Shaffer's input during the PCT review of the preliminary Phase II Alternatives has been an asset to our Program.

At the risk of repeating information you may have heard at the Water Policy Council meetings or in briefings provided by your staff, I would like to summarize the current status of our preliminary Phase II Alternatives. I think that such a summary will address many of your comments on the ten alternatives.

The fundamental structure of the alternatives has been simplified. We currently have three Preliminary Phase II Alternatives that are formed around different configurations of Delta conveyance: **Existing System Conveyance, Through Delta Conveyance, and Dual Delta Conveyance**. Each alternative includes the same set of core actions and four common programs related to **water use efficiency, water quality, system integrity, and ecosystem quality**. Each alternative could also include some combination of storage to support the common programs and the Delta conveyance.

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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In addition to this "component" approach for describing alternatives, several other major changes have been made in refining the ten alternatives to the set of Preliminary Phase II Alternatives:

- The land retirement action was replaced by temporary and long-term land conversion (without specific acreages) and included in the common water use efficiency program that is part of all alternatives. This common program will allow local water agencies to make appropriate water management decisions based on local conditions as well as changes which are consistent with the system conveyance and storage components.
- The East Side Conveyance (Alternative J) from the previous proposal is undergoing further evaluation and is currently carried as a subcomponent of the Dual Delta Conveyance alternative with isolated conveyance capacities up to the full physical capacity of the projects.

The alternative refinement process will continue. The Phase II Alternatives, as well as the common programs, will continue to change throughout Phase II as we receive and incorporate more agency and public comment and conduct more detailed analyses. Many of the studies you mention in your letter will be conducted in this Phase.

I look forward to your continued participation as we move toward the conclusion of Phase I and into the alternative refinement and analysis which is contained in Phase II.