



**CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM**

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Sacramento, California 95814

**(916) 657-2666**  
FAX **(916) 654-9780**

February 23, 1998

Edward M. Steffani, General Manager  
Stockton East Water District  
P.O. Box 5157  
Stockton, CA 95205-0157

Dear Mr. Steffani:

I have received a copy of your letter of January 15, 1998, to Representative Richard Pombo expressing Stockton East Water District's support for his position regarding the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. We understand that Mr. Pombo supports CALFED Program goals, tempered by concern over some of the specific methods being discussed for achieving those goals. We are pleased that Stockton East also supports CALFED Program goals, and we welcome this opportunity to discuss your concerns about water supplies.

We agree with your concern about the imbalance between water supplies and water demand. In fact, one of the resource areas being addressed by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is water supply reliability, and we are working to develop plans that would reduce the mismatch between supplies and demand. Reducing this mismatch requires actions to reduce demand, of course, but it also requires actions to augment supplies. Beginning from the early stages of program development, CALFED staff have consistently reviewed a range of storage enhancements. For purposes of analysis, this range has varied from zero to 6.0 million acre-feet. In mid-December 1997, CALFED staff presented three alternative plans to the Bay-Delta Advisory Council. These alternatives were designed to achieve the best performance from each of the three basic physical approaches to addressing Bay-Delta system issues. Each alternative contains the full range of storage up to 6 million acre-feet of additional capacity. The CALFED staff recognizes the potential for a broad range of benefits -- including water supply benefits -- from properly designed and constructed storage. CALFED staff also is aware of the negative and costly impacts of ill-advised storage. We will continue to evaluate viable storage sites throughout the summer.

Regarding your observations about the time horizon for water supply planning, we recognize that water supply facilities will have a useful life ranging up to fifty years. Even so, the most comprehensive statewide water planning document, Department of Water

**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  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service

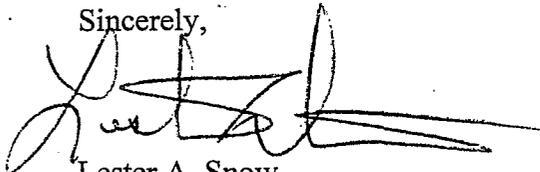
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Resources' California Water Plan Update, continues to use a 2020 planning horizon because no major new data are available to justify extending the planning horizon beyond that date.

We remain confident that CALFED agencies will develop a balanced, long-term solution to the problems of ecosystem quality, water quality, water supply reliability, and levee system vulnerability affecting the Bay-Delta system. We also remain confident that implementation of this balanced, long-term solution will result in benefits for all of California.

I hope this information is helpful. Please call me at (916) 657-2666 if you wish to discuss this matter in more detail.

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

cc Governor Pete Wilson  
California Congressional Delegation  
Secretary Bruce Babbitt, Department of the Interior  
Administrator Carol Browner, EPA  
Secretary of State Bill Jones, State of California