



Madera County Farm Bureau

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January 28, 1999

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CAL-FED Bay Delta Program
1416 - 9th Street, Ste 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

DINO A. PETRUCCI
PRESIDENT

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TREASURER

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SECRETARY-MANAGER

see this

Dear Mr. Snow,

Enclosed you will find a petition signed by over 1200 people of Madera County opposing the Madera Ranch Groundwater Bank Project. These signatures were gathered during the holiday season in November and December and only recently compiled for distribution. The opposition spans across city/country resident, race, political party and occupation. We believe this represents the opposition of our county to the Project for the reasons stated in the petition (text provided below).

As residents and landowners of Madera County we will oppose the purchase of the land of Madera Ranch until comprehensive technical, economic and environmental studies are completed in a credible, high quality manner. We hope the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will proceed in good faith to conduct these studies and work with the local constituents prior to land acquisition.

Thank you again for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dino Petrucci, President
Madera County Farm Bureau

Loren Freeman, Local Landowner
Madera County Farm Bureau Member

Text of Petition Opposing Madera Ranch Groundwater Bank Project:

We, the undersigned, oppose the Madera Ranch Groundwater Bank Project because the Project proposes to potentially give agencies such as the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, large metropolitan areas and/or other water agencies outside Madera County access and control of our underground water basin for their economic benefit, not ours. We must retain control of our own groundwater to use it most effectively for all the cities of Madera County and the local agriculture of Madera County for our economic benefit, not of others outside our county.