



CALFED
BAY-DELTA
PROGRAM

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February 23, 1999

Mr. Douglas V. Handerson
Advance Planning Coordinator
City of Santa Clara
1800 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 98050

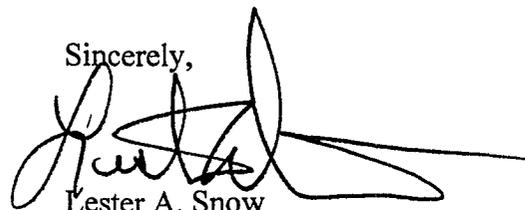
Dear Mr. Handerson,

Thank you for your letter regarding alternatives for the use of groundwater under the ocean floor. While it may be possible to construct wells in San Francisco Bay or offshore that would tap into underlying aquifers containing potable water, the expense would be prohibitive. Additionally, extraction of any potable water from these aquifers, even if economically feasible, would likely result in a change in hydrologic conditions that could cause seawater intrusion into the potable aquifers.

CALFED initiated a groundwater outreach program in 1996 to help identify and address issues related to groundwater use and management. We have recently assembled a Conjunctive Use Advisory Team to advise CALFED staff on the development and implementation of potential groundwater projects.

We will continue to evaluate all viable groundwater programs, and would be happy to discuss projects with you that may benefit the City of Santa Clara while helping to meet CALFED's goals and objectives. If you have specific questions regarding the Advisory Team, please contact Anthony Saracino, CALFED Conjunctive Use Coordinator, at (916) 688-5807.

I appreciate your concerns and look forward to working with you to help improve California's water supply reliability.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

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