

February 17, 1999

Mr. Stein Buer  
Assistant Director, CALFED  
1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Stein:

I want to, once again, thank you and Steve Roberts for making time in your busy schedules to travel to Byron last Wednesday to meet with me at the Clifton Court Forebay. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to participate in an on-site review of some of the bases for my comments regarding proposed South Delta project components. Thanks also for your preparations in retrieving and reviewing my comments prior to our meeting. I hope it was time well spent, as well as a break from your office routines. It was rewarding to have nice weather between the recent storms.

It is the unanimous and fervent hope of the Investors of King Island, Inc. that you will direct serious research and analysis to locating any new forebay intake structure at the northwest corner of the Forebay. Our contention is that sufficient justification for moving the proposed location does exist. In addition to the issues of improved water quality and reduced costs over potential levee setbacks on Victoria Island that we discussed, I'd like to offer some additional points to consider.

- . It would reduce the extent of proposed dredging by approximately twenty percent.
- . Mitigation credit for terrestrial habitat lost to the facility's construction would inherent to the design by creating the new island shown on the modified drawing provided.
- . It would provide mitigation for perceived negative impacts on Widdows, Eucalyptus, King and the berm island by not dredging West Canal in front of them.
- . It would provide mitigation for potential negative impact on recreation in a heavily used area in West Canal by directing diversions from Old River straight into the intake instead of generating turbulence with a ninety degree diversion.
- . It could be deemed a measure of Adaptive Management toward the scouring in West Canal over thirty years of SWP operations.

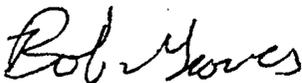
In regard to Eucalyptus Island, coincidentally the owner was out later in the day and we had an opportunity to discuss questions Steve had raised. Based on past experiences in the repairing of breaches, it is felt that reclaiming the island would necessitate raising its elevation to give better interior support of the levee integrity. The win-win solution would be to use the island as a depository for some of the dredge material from Old River. We hope that you can help direct the pursuit of such a project concept.

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Although your time constraints didn't allow a more complete review of my comments, I did see that you had made notations in the margins. One that caught my eye was a question mark next to a reference to the Mountain House development. I'm enclosing a copy of a recent article from one of the valley newspapers that should be of interest, as it too raises issues of water quality. If there were other comments that need clarification or amplification, I welcome such an opportunity.

I look forward to receiving feedback from your ongoing meetings on the South Delta, including minutes where allowable. I also hope that it can be arranged to meet with Steve or other representatives on Friday, April 16th, to survey mudflats exposed by the low tide.

Respectfully,



Bob Groves

cc. Steve Roberts, DWR  
John Davis, Mgr, IOKI, Inc.