



**M e m o r a n d u m**

Date: June 2, 1999

To: Jim Boyd  
Energy Advisor to the Secretary  
The Resources Agency

From: Lester A. Snow  
Executive Director

Subject: California's Hydroelectric Facilities

This memorandum is in response to your request during the May 26, 1999 "Hydro Group" meeting for participants to identify their concerns with potential future ownership and operation of hydroelectric facilities.

The Departments and Commissions under the Resources Agency will most likely have specific concerns regarding future ownership and operation of hydroelectric facilities in line with their specific responsibilities. Given the CALFED Bay-Delta Program's multiple objectives of restoring ecological health and improving water management for beneficial uses in the Bay-Delta system, we are primarily interested in exploring the potential for improving the balance of environmental and water supply benefits obtained from operation of these facilities. Any change in operations that is shown to be beneficial could be pursued regardless of future ownership of facilities on a compensated, willing participant basis.

CALFED is beginning an Integrated Storage Investigation that will consider how all types of storage, including reoperation of hydroelectric facilities, could fit into a comprehensive water management strategy. This investigation must consider a number of issues, including power production, water supply reliability, instream flows and temperatures, flood control, and recreation. It is likely that the greatest potential benefits of reoperation of hydroelectric facilities will be project specific and will require a regional perspective. In this case, CALFED's primary focus will be on evaluating the potential cumulative effects of reoperation on the Bay-Delta system, and establishing guidelines to assure that CALFED's objectives are considered.

I am sure your compilation of the concerns from the other meeting participants, and continued input from the Departments and Commissions during our evaluations, will help CALFED develop a realistic assessment of the hydropower reoperation potential.

**CALFED Agencies**

<p>California</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Resources Agency</li> <li>Department of Fish and Game</li> <li>Department of Water Resources</li> <li>California Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>State Water Resources Control Board</li> </ul>	<p>Federal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environmental Protection Agency</li> <li>Department of the Interior</li> <li>Fish and Wildlife Service</li> <li>Bureau of Reclamation</li> <li>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Agriculture</li> <li>Natural Resources Conservation Service</li> <li>Department of Commerce</li> <li>National Marine Fisheries Service</li> </ul>
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