

California League of Conservation Voters
Natural Resources Defense Council
League of Women Voters of California
Sierra Club
Environmental Defense
Save The Bay
The Bay Institute of San Francisco
Mono Lake Committee
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
Golden Gate Audubon Society
Clean Water Action
Friends of the River
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
California Trout

April 7, 2000

Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Babbitt:

We are writing to request an opportunity to meet with you to discuss ongoing negotiations regarding CALFED, CVPIA, and other related California water issues and to assure adequate representation of our communities' perspectives.

For several months, state and federal agency representatives have been meeting to discuss these important water issues, and will be making major decisions in the coming weeks and months. We applaud the state and federal administrations for addressing these pressing water and environmental concerns and for providing a high level of involvement. These negotiations have not been restricted, however, to state and federal administration representatives. The views of the Central Valley, irrigated agriculture and other water interests have been represented by Congressman Gary Condit, his staff and Keith Brackpool.

We remain fully committed to working with you to develop a balanced and an environmentally and economically credible CALFED plan. As you know, given the complexity of these issues, developing balanced solutions requires assuring that a full range of voices are adequately represented in the process. Such balanced processes have led to the Bay-Delta Accord, Proposition 204, the recent water bond, and the Bay-Delta Act. We believe that the perspectives of the environmental community and commercial fishermen and recreational anglers must be represented in these discussions, in a manner comparable to representation for other interests. We would greatly appreciate an opportunity to speak with you about this as soon as possible. We will contact your office regarding a meeting. We have made a similar request of Susan Kennedy.



Thank you for your commitment to finding balanced and workable solutions to strengthen both the California economy and environment.

Sincerely,

Jean Auer
Environmental Water Caucus Facilitator

Sarah Rose
California League of Conservation Voters

Barry Nelson
Natural Resources Defense Council

Roberta Borgonovo
League of Women Voters of California

Alex Rate
Sierra Club

Tom Graff
Environmental Defense

Cynthia Koehler
Save The Bay

Grant Davis
The Bay Institute of San Francisco

Francis Spivy-Weber
Mono Lake Committee

John Beuttler
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

Arthur Feinstein
Golden Gate Audubon Society

Marguerite Young
Clean Water Action

Steve Evans
Friends of the River

Nick Di Croce
California Trout

Zeke Grader
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations