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95-44

February 1, 1996

David A. Forkel
Delta Wetlands
3697 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Dear Mr. Forkel:

Thank you for your letter of December 8, 1995, with your comments about our Program. I apologize for the delay in responding, however, I did want to respond to several of your comments.

You have suggested that the criteria used in the CVPIA PEIS was too restrictive in setting proper baseline conditions for environmental analysis. We are currently in the process of developing criteria to apply to both policies and projects which might be considered as part of baseline conditions for the CALFED Bay Delta Program. We appreciate your comments on this issue and believe it will be an important discussion at the Phase II scoping meetings generally scheduled for mid April.

With regard to your comment about estimating yield as part of baseline; we are not intending in the Program to estimate yield for projects or to estimate total demands. We are focused on adding flexibility into the system so that more effective use can be made of whatever supplies are available.

Your comments on Georgiana Slough, funding for levee maintenance, and stockpiling riprap for emergency use have been passed on the Program Team and consultants along with the outline you sent for an alternative. The alternatives currently being prepared for discussion at the next Workshop on February 26 will cover a wide array of actions. I expect that many of your interests will be part of one or more of the Draft Alternatives.

Thank you for your comments and I look forward to your continuing participation in our efforts.

Sincerely,

Lester A. Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program