

March 5, 1996

Patrick McCarty  
McCarty Company  
1755 W. Hammer Lane, Suite 12  
Stockton, CA 95209

Dear Mr. McCarty:

Thank you for your letter of February 23, 1996 regarding your comments on the consideration of Delta levee standards in the alternatives prepared by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. We truly appreciate you taking the time to relay your thoughts on this issue of our program. Staff has reviewed your comments and they have been made part of our public comment record.

The concerns expressed in your letter will be considered as we prepare the refined alternatives for the upcoming progress report. (Please see the attached individual comment responses.) Please note that agency experts are currently reviewing our alternatives, including measures to address levee stability. Modifications of the program materials will be made as necessary since they will form the basis for future alternative refinement and evaluation.

Again, we appreciate your interest in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and look forward to your continued involvement in this important effort.

Sincerely,

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

Attachment

ATTACHMENT

Comment 1- The standards described in our alternatives are not intended to be maximum levels. They are intended as minimum standards for the various classifications of targeted Delta islands. There is no restriction in local governments obtaining higher levels of protection for all Delta islands.

Comment 2 - Our review of existing material, including the informal DWR survey, indicated there are approximately 12 islands which do not meet the Hazard Mitigation Plan standard. (See attached table) The PL-99 agricultural standard will provide an increased level of stability over our proposed minimum Hazard Mitigation Plan standard. However, we do not intend to restrict local governments from achieving higher levels of protection for all Delta islands.

Comment 3 - There is considerable information available regarding levees and staff has actively been collecting and reviewing for development of our alternatives. We believe a current inventory as suggested by the proposed levee inventory/study for the LTMS project can be beneficial. However, our program is currently at the programmatic level of detail and the specific information desired by this study is beyond our current efforts. In addition, the scope of the study may need to be expanded in order to accurately capture the current condition of Delta levees and channels.