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Mr. Lester Snow
Executive Director
Cal Fed Bay Delta Program
1416 9th Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento CA 95814

October 24, 1997

Dear Mr. Snow,

I am writing as this as one who is impressed by the concept of the CalFed program and as one who is not terribly well informed about CalFed.

I understand that many federal and state agencies are coming together under the aegis of CalFed to find short-term and long-term management strategies for the Bay Delta. This approach of integrated action on a systems with many interlinked resource components is very admirable and timely.

From what little I have been able to gather, it appears to me that the groundwater component of the overall resource system may need adequate consideration. I do understand that consideration is being given to groundwater in some ways such as, for example, conjunctive use. However, from a long-term view point, groundwater as a natural resource deserves consideration from a broader philosophical basis. Groundwater constitutes the lower half of the hydrologic cycle. I would suspect that on a time scale of decades to a century, groundwater circulating down to several hundred feet (perhaps a thousand feet) below land surface may have significant influence on stream base flow, evolution of wetlands and changes in soil profiles. Thus, it would seem to me, groundwater merits consideration within CalFed in terms of the physics and chemistry of its regional motion from the areas of recharge over the coast ranges to the delta over the bay delta complex.

It could well be that Cal Fed is already involved in such a consideration. If so, please accept my compliments. If not, please give some thought to my suggestion. I might add here that I do not have any specific project in mind for which I intend seeking support from CalFed. This letter is simply one of curiosity and public interest.

Yours very truly,

T.N. Narasimhan
Oct. 24, 97

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