

SEP 04 1998

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K. MAURICE JOHANNESSEN
CHAIRMAN

September 1, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Sir:

This letter is in response to your August 19th correspondence regarding the testimony of Mr. Dennis O'Connor before my committee on August 5, 1998, a copy of which is attached. I received your letter in my office on August 26, 1998. In the future, please deliver material addressed to me at the same time as other recipients.

To "boil down" Mr. O'Connor's testimony to the narrow point of whether or not CALFED is attempting to "...satisfy any given level of water supply demand" is extreme oversimplification. I am very aware of Mr. O'Connor's objective and allow me to clarify it for you. If the baseline data used by CALFED in the "modeling" of its alternatives is flawed, then the projected outcomes of those alternatives are flawed. A very simple scientific truth that really requires no explanation.

Please note CALFED's own understanding of this principle found on page 6.1-33 of your draft programmatic EIS/EIR which states, "At any point in time within this process, the modeling results are only as accurate a predictor of real-world conditions as the *assumptions on which the modeling is based.*" (Emphasis added) On page 2-36 of the same document, CALFED identifies DWR Bulletin 160-98 as the source for "demand estimates" used in modeling for the No Action Alternative and the Program Alternatives. Additional examples of CALFED's understanding the vital nature of accurate information are available should you require them for consideration.

Finally, one of the Primary Objectives of the CALFED Program is to "Reduce the mismatch between Bay-Delta water supplies and the current and projected beneficial uses dependent on the Bay-Delta System."

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Lester Snow
September 1, 1998
Page Two

In light of this objective, the statements in your letter, and the fact that you do not dispute Mr. O'Connor's testimony that the baseline data used by CALFED for modeling is in error, please provide this Committee with a detailed course of action to correct the flaws in modeling which currently exist.

Your immediate attention to this request is appreciated and I anticipate an answer within 5 business days of the receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,



K. MAURICE JOHANNESSEN
Chairman

KMJ:dh

enclosure

cc: Senator Jim Costa
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