

SEPTEMBER 29, 1998

NO. 98-277 **RESOLUTION ENDORSING CALFED ALTERNATIVE
THREE TO THE BAY-DELTA FIX**

On motion of Supervisor Slater, seconded by Supervisor Jacob, the following resolution is adopted:

WHEREAS, water is the lifeline of California; and

WHEREAS, Southern California has a diverse economy with many diverse types of water users, each having equally important needs for the state's water; and

WHEREAS, San Diego County, like the rest of Southern California, faces problems with the adequate supply, quality, reliability and delivery of water that threatens its diverse \$89 billion economy; and

WHEREAS, San Diego County's population is projected to grow by one-third, causing water needs to increase significantly in the future; and

WHEREAS, San Diego County typically relies on sources outside our region for 90 percent of our total supply; and

WHEREAS, the San Francisco Bay-Sacramento Delta provides about 15 percent of this imported water supply, and it has provided up to 50 percent in the past; and

WHEREAS, although San Diego County depends heavily on imported water, it recognizes the importance of local supplies and is a leader in the development of water conservation and water recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, a lack of investment in the Bay-Delta system has degraded the Bay-Delta estuary's health and reduced the supply and reliability of Southern California's water supply; and

WHEREAS, higher state and federal water quality standards are being imposed; and

WHEREAS, with the reliability of water supplies for California's future at stake, a joint federal and state program (CALFED) was formed to develop a long-term comprehensive plan to restore the ecological health, and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system; and

WHEREAS, after three years CALFED has developed and refined through public workshops, technical work groups, an advisory council and an interagency team, three alternatives which are undergoing a programmatic environmental review; and

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WHEREAS, each of these alternatives comprises six common programs: ecosystem restoration, water use efficiency, water quality, improved Delta levees, watershed management, water transfers; and

WHEREAS, they differ mainly in the amounts of additional water storage capacity and the method of conveying water across the Delta; and

WHEREAS, CALFED is now focused on selection of a preferred program alternatives; and

WHEREAS, this selection will determine the long-term reliability and quality of water available to Southern California; and

WHEREAS, the water resources of the state shall be developed in a manner that protect the natural resources of the state but also supplies the urban and agricultural users with an adequate, reliable and safe water supply in a manner that supports California's economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the people of San Diego County, while having the need to implement ecosystem restoration projects within their own region, are willing to join with all other Californians to fund Bay-Delta restoration projects; and

WHEREAS, CALFED's analysis of future demands for Bay-Delta water assumes that the California 4.4 Plan will allow Southern California to live within its entitlement of Colorado River water and not increase its demands on the Bay-Delta; and

WHEREAS, the water conservation and transfer agreement between the San Diego County Water Authority and the Imperial Irrigation District is a linchpin of the California 4.4 Plan; and

WHEREAS, Alternative Three appears to provide to Southern California the water quality and water supply reliability improvements necessary to support the region's economic growth and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, CALFED has identified a staged decision-making approach designed to accommodate scientific uncertainty and the meet all needs in the most efficient and cost-effective manner; **NOW THEREFORE**

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors on behalf of the citizens of the County of San Diego:

- (1) Supports the six CALFED common program elements; and
- (2) Agrees to participate in meaningful measures to implement reasonable and cost-effective strategies to use water efficiently; and
- (3) Supports expansion of the use of recycled waters, to the extent of its authority; and
- (4) Supports implementation of measures to facilitate development of an effective water transfer market; and

- (5) Supports efforts by CALFED to assure that the interests of all stakeholders are protected while the Bay-Delta program is carried out; and
- (6) Supports the development of regional assurances to ensure the benefits of CALFED's solution are distributed equitably at the local level; and
- (7) Endorses the water conservation and transfer agreement between the San Diego County Water Authority and the Imperial Irrigation District as a linchpin of Southern California's effort limit its demands on the Bay-Delta; and
- (8) Strongly endorses CALFED's Alternative Three, as it will supply reliable, high-quality water to San Diego County and also provide a comprehensive solution to problems affecting the Bay-Delta ecosystem.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego, State of California, this 29th day of September the following vote:

AYES: Cox, Jacob, Slater, Roberts, Horn

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
County of San Diego)^{SS}

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

THOMAS J. PASTUSZKA
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By *Patrick A. Hunter*
PATRICK A. HUNTER, Deputy

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