



98-420

DEC 04 1998

November 25, 1998

Mr. Lester Snow
CalFed Bay-Delta Project
1416 9th Street

Enclosed for your information is a position statement on the CalFed Bay-Delta Program recently adopted by the board of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority. Highlights of the statement include the following points:

- Our goal for the CalFed Program is to **restore water supplies** given up by our contractors under the ESA, the Accord, and the CVPIA, and to **improve source water quality** delivered to our municipal contractors.
- **Beginning immediately** and progressing over the next seven years, CalFed Stage 1 actions must provide our members with **improved water supply and reliability** above where we were when we signed the Accord. Without this improvement, the Water Authority will not support the continuation of the CalFed Program.
- There cannot be any outliers. CalFed must provide a comprehensive plan which umbrellas CVPIA, ESA, etc.
- We acknowledge that "**soft path**" measures are a **necessary component** of the CalFed solution and should be part of a balance Stage 1 Program.
- CalFed must **dedicate resources during Stage 1** for site development, environmental and feasibility studies, and permitting and **construction for the storage and conveyance components of the long-term solution.**
- The CalFed solution must recognize the financial contributions already being made by CVP water users. **CVP water users should not be required to pay additional costs for water supplies provided by CalFed to replace water dedicated to environmental protections by regulatory or legislative actions.**

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I hope you will consider these views as you finalize selection of the preferred alternative and complete the development of Stage 1.

Sincerely,

Daniel G. Nelson
Executive Director

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cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressman Gary Condit
Congressman Calvin Dooley
Congressman John Doolittle
Secretary of State Bill Jones
Senator Jim Costa
Assemblyman Mike Machado
Assemblyman Dennis Cardoza
Jasper Hempel, Western Growers
Bill Pauli, California Farm Bureau
SLDMWA Board of Directors
Ag/Urban/Business Roundtable