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MAY 13 1999



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MICHAEL J. MACHADO
Chairman

May 6, 1999

Mr. Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear *Lester*,

I am writing with regards to claims alleging that the South Delta Investigation Team (SDIT) excluded the direct participation of interested parties representing the South Delta during the consideration of alternatives to the original plan designed to protect the South Delta water supply. If this is true, then it runs contrary to discussions we have had on being able to resolve these issues collaboratively.

I am also disturbed by the allegations that members of SDIT stated, at the April 30th workshop, that any comment made regarding the proposed alternatives would be noted, but that no substantive changes would be made. If this is true, then is there credibility to the phrase, "getting better together?"

It seems that everyone outside the Delta, particularly those individuals that export Delta water and then return it as wastewater, is an expert on how to fix the water quality problems effecting the South and Central Delta and the cities of Manteca and Stockton. Problems in the Delta are further compounded by the lack of consensus among agencies charged with the protection of fish and wildlife and those who oversee the operations of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project. The result: the proliferation of plans by separate entities designed only to perpetuate their own self-interests, without regards to the others who depend equally on water reliability and water quality.

I remain committed to forging a comprehensive water policy for California and supporting the implementation of CALFED policies that indeed allow everyone to "get better together." However, I am worried that the continued allegations, like these, will block such policy from forming and prevent establishing legislative support for CALFED.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I await your response.

Sincerely,
[Signature]

MICHAEL J. MACHADO, Chairman
Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

MJM:ks