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California State Senate

SENATOR
DICK MONTEITH
TWELFTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



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September 21, 1999

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

Dear Mr. Snow:

We are writing to request your consideration in providing the San Joaquin Valley Water Coalition with a \$100,000 planning grant from funds that may become available through the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

The San Joaquin Valley, representing one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world, is finding itself in the midst of several dilemmas. The once stable source of readily available water to our farmers, businesses and residents is now considered finite as the Valley is experiencing a population growth as well as the increasing demands of Southern California water needs. The California Department of Finance is projecting a growth in excess of 1.8 million in the San Joaquin Valley by the year 2020. With this considerable growth, problems associated with water delivery and consumption demands will not only continue to exist but will worsen. Therefore, with our water supply in the Valley diminishing, we must find solutions to the many water issues placing strains upon those concerned with agriculture, economic development, growing urban populations and environmental issues. Simply, our region's future vitality, economic stability and way of life are in jeopardy if constructive debate and proper planning measures do not take place. The San Joaquin Valley Water Coalition is a group that was formed "To ensure a water supply for the San Joaquin Valley that is sustainable and meets the needs and concerns of all water users, addressing the interdependence of water supply, land use and growth."

The SJVWC strives to bring together all stakeholders, agriculture, irrigation districts, municipal water providers, local government and environmental groups, in order to clearly address the regional concerns of the San Joaquin Valley. However, for this diverse group to continue, funding must exist to offset the fiscal demands during its initial six months of operation. Your funding will support the Coalition's activities and will greatly contribute to building a regional consensus concerning water issues.

Your favorable consideration of this proposal will be greatly appreciated. We would like to thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

DICK MONTEITH
Senator, 12th District

CHARLES POOCHIGIAN
Senator, 14th District

DM/CP: mjh