



# CITY OF LA VERNE CITY HALL

3660 "D" Street, LaVerne, California 91750

February 11, 1999

Steve Ritchie  
CALFED Chief Deputy Director  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, CA 95814

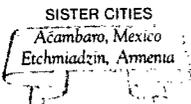
Re: Urban MOU Conservation Compliance Certification

Dear Mr. Ritchie:

The City of La Verne, a retail water supplier for 8,000 customers, has aggressively and voluntarily implemented several water conservation programs and is a strong advocate of the water conservation best management practices. It is clear that water conservation will play an important role in the future water supply for California.

As the CALFED efforts evolve, it appears evident that there will be some type of accountability required relative to conservation. Both of the current proposals for conservation compliance certification offer good direction. It is our hope that you will consider the following items in crafting any final certification requirements:

- Wholesale water providers should also be held accountable for supporting the water conservation best management practices. This support will encourage and support the ability of the retail agencies to carry out the best management practices.
- In an effort to assist smaller agencies that have not begun to comply with the best management practices, compliance could be phased in beginning with the largest water providers (CUWA agencies). The smaller agencies could be phased in over a period of time. Not only will this allow the smaller agencies the time to budget and plan for the necessary activities, but the state would realize the greatest savings by requiring the largest providers who are responsible for 70 percent of water consumption to act first.
- There needs to be an ongoing commitment of funds if conservation is expected to be an ongoing practice. Grant programs and other possibilities should be explored.



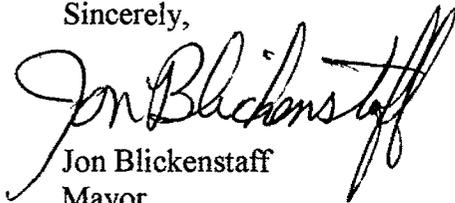
General Administration 909/596-8726 • Water Customer Service 909/596-8744 • Parks & Community Services 909/596-8700  
Public Works 909/596-8741 • Finance 909/596-8716 • Planning 909/596-8706 • Building 909/596-8713  
Fax 909/596-8737

Steve Ritchie  
February 11, 1999  
Page 2

- The idea of an appeal process which allows one stakeholder or environmental group to appeal the certification of a water agency creates an atmosphere which can create hostility and defeat the collaborative nature of the California Urban Water Conservation Council. While a check and balance system may be appropriate, perhaps another alternative should be explored.

Thank you for your consideration. If the City of La Verne can be of assistance in this process, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Jon Blickenstaff  
Mayor