



**CONTRA COSTA  
WATER DISTRICT**

1331 Concord Avenue  
P.O. Box H20  
Concord, CA 94524  
(925) 688-8000 FAX (925) 688-8122

99-111  
APR 19 1999

April 15, 1999

**Directors**

Joseph L. Campbell  
*President*

James Pretti  
*Vice President*

Elizabeth R. Anello  
Bette Boatman  
Noble O. Elcenko, D.C.

Walter J. Bishop  
*General Manager*

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

**Re: Revised Bundling Tables Memorandum dated March 23, 1999**

Dear Mr. Snow:

Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) has reviewed your March 23, 1999 memorandum to the Bay-Delta Advisory Committee on the revised bundles table. CCWD offers the following comments on this memorandum and the revised bundles tables.

**Veale Tract Project**

The District supports inclusion of the Veale Tract Drainage Discharge Relocation Feasibility Study and Environmental Documentation project in the early implementation bundle for the Lower San Joaquin River and South Delta Region. Agricultural drainage from this area has significant impacts on the quality of CCWD's drinking water supply, especially during winter months when the water quality would otherwise be expected to be to be good.

However, as was noted by Stein Buer in his presentation at the March 25 BDAC meeting in Bakersfield, the Veale Tract project is intended to (partially) offset the water quality impacts of other CALFED projects in the Lower San Joaquin River and South Delta Region bundle, for example, the VAMP, increased pumping at the SWP export pumps and agricultural flow barriers in the south Delta.

The project would also alleviate concerns raised by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) regarding the effect of agricultural drainage in Rock Slough on the Department's ability to meet the Rock Slough M&I standard in the State Water Resources Control Board's 1995 Water Quality Control Plan. The Veale Tract project should, therefore, be considered as a cost share with DWR and other proponents of the south Delta improvements and VAMP and not CCWD. Suggested language change under Details/Assumptions: *"Possible cost share with DWR. To be carried out in coordination with CCWD."* DWR should be listed as the Implementing Entity.

Mr. Lester Snow

Revised Bundling Tables Memorandum dated March 23, 1999

April 15, 1999

Page 2

### **RD 800 Drain Project**

The District requests that a second water quality improvement action be added to the Lower San Joaquin River and South Delta Region bundle. This action would be titled: **Management, Relocation and/or Treatment of RD 800 Drain Discharge**. Like the Veale Tract project, this would be a feasibility study to determine the impacts of the RD 800 discharge on drinking water quality at the Banks, Tracy and Los Vaqueros intakes. Detailed monitoring would be carried out in the vicinity of the discharge. If the feasibility study indicates this discharge is a significant source of salinity, organic carbon, pesticides or pathogens, the project will proceed to an environmental impact review phase and development of a preferred alternative for management, relocation and/or treatment of the discharge to assist meet CALFED's goal of continuous improvement in water quality. This action has been recommended in both the CALFED Water Quality Program appendix (Drinking water quality actions for CCWD #2 and #3 and for the SWP Action #4) and the CMARP program (Sections 4.2.4.2 and 4.2.5.3).

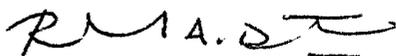
This RD 800 Drain project would also help offset the water quality impacts of other CALFED projects in the Lower San Joaquin River and South Delta Region bundle, such as the VAMP, increased pumping at the SWP export pumps and agricultural barriers in the south Delta. The RD 800 Drain project should also be considered as a cost share with DWR and other proponents of the south Delta improvements and VAMP, but carried out in coordination with CCWD. A fuller description of the RD 800 Drain project is attached.

### **Coordinated Strategy for Wastewater Discharges**

A third and equally important bundle action that should be included in the Lower San Joaquin River and South Delta Region bundle and Lower Sacramento River, North Delta bundle is a coordinated strategy to reduce and mitigate the impacts of urban wastewater discharges into the Delta and units tributaries. There are many new communities and new and expanded wastewater plants currently in the approval, environmental and NPDES permitting process. Many more are in the planning stages. It is very important that CALFED demonstrate its commitment to continuous improvement in water quality by addressing these new or expanded discharges through a total maximum daily load (TMDL) approach for salinity, TOC and other contaminants, and tertiary treatment and other requirements to eliminate these sources of pathogens.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (925) 688-8187.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Denton  
Water Resources Manager

Attachment