PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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September 15, 2003

Sammie Cervantes
U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, MP-140
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825

Re: Comments on Draft EIS/EIR for Environmental Water Account

Dear Ms. Cervantes:

Earlier today, on behalf of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (Pajaro), I faxed you a letter requesting an extension of the comment period for the draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) covering the operation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program's Environmental Water Account (EWA). This afternoon I received a telephone call from one of your staff members informing me that there would be no extension of the comment period, which ends today.

Without withdrawing our request for an extension of the comment period, I would like to note the following substantive comment on the draft EIS/EIR. Section 2.4.2 of Chapter 2 describes "Asset Acquisition and Management." This section does not acknowledge potential asset acquisition from Pajaro, which has been identified as a possible source of EWA supply in discussions between Pajaro and the Water Transfer Office of the Department of Water Resources. Expansion of the Section 2.4.2 discussion to include Pajaro may be appropriate.

There may be other substantive issues in the draft EIS/EIR which Pajaro has not yet had been able to analyze fully. Therefore, we reiterate our earlier request for an extension of the comment period.

Thank you for consideration of this matter. Please feel welcome to call me if you would like to discuss this request further.

Sincerely,

Charles McNiesh
General Manager

enclosure