



Cal/EPA

**State Water
Resources
Control Board**

**Division of
Water Rights**

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA
95812-2000

901 P Street
Sacramento, CA
95814
(916) 657-1359
FAX (916) 657-1485



Pete Wilson
Governor

TO INTERESTED PARTIES

RELEASE OF DRAFT PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (PEIR)
FOR THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PETITION TO CONSOLIDATE AND
CONFORM THE PLACE OF USE FOR 16 OF ITS CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT
WATER RIGHT PERMITS

Enclosed is a copy of the subject draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has prepared the draft PEIR pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) petition to consolidate and conform 16 of the of its Central Valley Project (CVP) water right permits. Reclamation petitioned the SWRCB to make four changes to 16 of its water right permits issued by the SWRCB for operation of nine CVP facilities. The petitioned changes were to: (1) consolidate the CVP authorized place of use, (2) expand the authorized place of use, (3) conform the purposes of use, and (4) extend the time to complete full beneficial use of water under the permits. The time extension will be handled as a separate action by the SWRCB . The petition was noticed on July 29, 1986, and has become known as the Consolidated Place of Use (CPOU) petition. A water right hearing was noticed on December 2, 1997 for the SWRCB to consider this action. Copies of this notice can be obtained by calling Renee Frazier at (916) 657-1361. This draft EIR along with other evidence will be evaluated by the SWRCB in the preparation of a water right order. If you would like to participate in this water right hearing you should obtain a copy of the hearing notice.

Comments on the draft EIR must be received on or before 5:00 p.m. January 30, 1998.
Comments should be addressed to:

Mike Falkenstein, Chief
Environmental Section
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

They can be hand delivered to the same addressee at 901 P Street, Third Floor, Division of Water Rights reception area.

In addition, the text of the draft EIR will be made available on the Internet after December 15, 1997 at <http://www.waterrights.ca.gov>. The graphs, tables and maps in the text may not be generally available on the Internet.



If you have any questions regarding the draft EIR, they can be directed to Mike Falkenstein at (916) 657-1377 or Jim Canaday at (916) 657-2208.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Anton, Chief
Division of Water Rights

INTERESTED PARTIES

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