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CALFED Science Program  
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650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor  
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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to give a general comment with respect to funding recommendations for the 2006 PSP. The basis for this comment is my experience on the PWA review panel (2001-05) as well as on the IEP Science Advisory Group (1995 - present).

I note that among the proposals recommended for funding, proposals # 0084, 0068, 0056, 0060, and 0078 are from state and federal agencies. In my experience with Bay/Delta issues, a significant shortcoming of work done by these agencies has been a lack of analysis and thus of peer-reviewed publications describing this work. This should not be construed as disparaging the talented staff of the agencies. Rather, in many cases this simply reflects a lack of time (effectively FTEs) for agency staff to go beyond compiling the data they and their staffs collect. It is the case however that sometimes the analysis needed would require specific skills and expertise not available inside the agencies. The bottom line is that much of the value of the data that has been so carefully collected is lost because the overall "science" is not carried to completion. It is worth noting the 2004 NRC report on Klamath Basin endangered and threatened fish espoused the view that science that never made it out of the so-called grey literature, e.g. agency reports, was not a suitable basis for making public policy.

Thus, while I am not privy to the details of the proposals (only summaries seem to be available to the public), my comment is that funding of these proposals should be contingent on having budgeted (or made available) adequate staff time to carry the work to completion, i.e., to publication, and requiring that the specific deliverables of the project include submitted peer-reviewed publications. If, in their present form, any of these projects do not contain the needed staff time or publications as deliverables, then either the project should be revised to do so or simply should not be funded.

Sincerely

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