El Dorado Irrigation District

In Reply Refer To: M0803-125

August 1, 2003

The Honorable Ken Calvert, Chair
House Water and Power Subcommittee
1522 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Via Fax: 202-226-6953

The Honorable Grace Napolitano, Ranking Member
House Water and Power Subcommittee
1522 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Via Fax: 202-225-0027

Subject: El Dorado Irrigation District Support for HR 2828

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member Napolitano:

The El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) is pleased to support your HR 2828, landmark bipartisan legislation to reauthorize the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and address water challenges across the West.

The CALFED Program is still California's best chance to make long-term, statewide improvements to water supply and conveyance infrastructure while restoring the environment and helping recover threatened species. In EID's service area, CALFED's implementation will bring about day-to-day progress on water reliability and water quality.

It is extremely important that the program be reauthorized this year and we appreciate your commitment to moving the process along. Intense pressure continues to stress California's existing water resources, with focal points on the Colorado River, the Bay-Delta and the Klamath. The CALFED Bay-Delta Program has been held up as the model for resolving conflicts in California and throughout the West where water issues are so critical. The program, however, can never realize its potential without authorization and funding.

We applaud the concepts contained in HR 2828, which includes both an authorization of CALFED and a competitive grants program for projects like desalination and water recycling. Moving forward with a grants program for desalination and recycling will compliment the CALFED Program and build upon the proven successes of these projects.

2890 Mosquito Road, Placerville, California 95667 • (530) 622-4513

Please contact us if we may be of further assistance with the passage of HR 2828. Thank you for your dedication to strengthening California's water supplies.

Sincerely,

George Osborne, President
Board of Directors
El Dorado Irrigation District

c: Congressman John Doolittle