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Sent: Friday, September 29, 2006 3:42 PM
To: Svetich, Ralph
Cc: tmz@talavera.us
Subject: Comments on Economic Consequences ITF

Ralph:

Here (again) are my comments on the draft Economic Consequences ITF.

3.1 IN-DELTA LOSSES

The only businesses expressly noted are agriculture and recreation. The small businesses of the in-Delta economy are more diverse. Business loss of use of structures due to flooding is noted but not loss of clientele and market. For example, will the income losses to agriculture and recreation- serving businesses be accounted for if the business itself is not damaged?

3.3 LOSSES FROM THE DISRUPTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE OF STATEWIDE IMPORTANCE THAT CROSSES THE DELTA

Highways are mentioned but there is no reference to the interregional impacts resulting from flooding of Delta highways. The Delta is a crossroad for workers and goods moving back and forth between the Bay Area and the Central Valley.

Highway 12 is a major route for trucks heading east from the Port of Oakland.

Delta highways have significance to national defense because a surprising amount of defense-related material traverses the Delta on its way to military installations. If Delta highways become flooded, the ripple effect on Interstates 80, 5, 205 and 580 could cause gridlock. These cost of resulting losses due to congestion and delay on the regional and state economies should be analyzed.

4.1 LOSS CATEGORIES AND APPROACHES FOR LOSS ESTIMATES

Losses from Water Export Disruptions

The proposal to analyze the cost of a temporary through-Delta channel in Phase 1 of the DRMS is premature. Phase 1, as I understand it, is to present the consequences of event conditions on the baseline. Cutting a channel is a mitigation measure more properly considered in the Phase 2 of the study. It couldn't be costed now anyway without a prior technical analysis of its feasibility, based upon location, time of season, etc. These would be necessary prerequisite assumptionse that are not currently in evidence.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Marci

