



February 14, 2006

My Fellow Californians,

Five years ago, the State of California set out to develop a California Water Plan Update that would be strategic, collaborative, useful, and action-oriented. With the help of a 65-member advisory committee and input from hundreds of other Californians, we have been successful. This update of the water plan truly represents a new direction for our state. It is a roadmap to help guide regional and statewide water management decisions.

The message of the plan is clear: California can secure its water resources for the future by making the right choices and the necessary investments now. The Governor is taking a bold step to meet that challenge by proposing a Strategic Growth Plan that includes substantial investments in our water future.

The Governor has proposed the "Flood Protection and Clean, Safe, Reliable Water Supply Bond and Financing Acts of 2006 and 2010" which would generate a total investment of \$29 billion of state, federal, and local funding for California water resources management over the next 10 years.

The proposal includes two programs that are drawn directly from the Water Plan. The first is an Integrated Regional Water Management Program, funded by general obligation bonds in 2006 and 2010. This will fund regional water management projects and improve statewide systems, as called for in the Water Plan. The second feature of the Governor's proposal is the California Water Resources Investment Program, which will ensure a dependable source of funding for water management into the future.

With the release of the *California Water Plan Update 2005* and the Governor's Strategic Growth Plan, California has the means to make the needed investments in infrastructure and an action plan to secure our water future.

Sincerely,

Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources

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