

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791



May 21, 2002

Mr. Sheldon G. Moore
7555 Herdlyn Road
Byron, California 94514-1607

Dear Mr. Moore:

Thank you for your March 23, 2002 letter concerning low water levels downstream of the temporary barriers (copy enclosed).

I understand from your letter, and your conversation with Mike Burns of my staff, that you have two low-lift pump diversions located on Old River just upstream of the intake to the federal Central Valley Project pumps. I also understand that you are looking to the State to reimburse you for additional electrical power costs associated with pumping during times of lowered water levels, presumably caused by the operation of the temporary barriers.

The Department Of Water Resources has on occasion assisted South Delta farmers who are downstream of the temporary barriers with water supply reliability problems. These farmers sometimes cannot divert water because the water levels are too low for their siphon, pump, or floodgate to operate. In these instances, DWR has assisted the Diverter with the expenses to modify their diversion in a manner that would provide them with the ability to divert water for irrigation under these low water level conditions. However, it is not the policy or practice of DWR to provide reimbursement for the incremental additional energy costs of pumping during low tide when the temporary barriers are operating for diversions that are ~~otherwise~~ capable of diverting water under these conditions.

If you would like to discuss this issue further, please call me at (916) 653-7247 or Mark Holderman of my staff at (916) 653-7429.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Ford".

Mike Ford, Chief
Office of State Water Project Planning
Delta Planning Branch

Enclosure

