March 8, 2002

Distribution List

Notice for the 2002 Temporary Barriers Installation

The Department of Water Resources is preparing to install barriers at the Head of Old River, Old River near the Delta Mendota Canal, Middle River, and Grantline Canal. Similar to previous years, construction will begin on April 1, 2002, provided the weather and river flows allow.

The target completion date for the barriers is April 15, 2002. However, at the Grant line Canal Barrier only, the northern abutment and the boat ramp will be completed by April 15, 2002.

The full closure of this barrier will depend on water surface elevation modeling results and consultation with the regulatory agencies, and may occur sometime after April 15, 2002.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please call me at (916) 653-6025. For a schedule, please visit our Web site at http://sdelta.water.ca.gov/web_pg/tempmesr.html.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Simon Kwan
Senior Engineer, W.R.
Dear Mr. Kwan:

In reply to your letter of March 5, 2002, our ranch's water supply is adversely affected by any dams or barriers that you put in the rivers or canals in our vicinity. The water level is higher on the upstream side of your barriers and lower on my side most of the time. The water on my side of the barrier is never higher than the upstream side.

It is only fair that your Department compensate us for your adverse action. Why should I have to even request action on your part? It is time for honesty and openness in our government.

I await your reply.

Sincerely,

Sheldon G. Moore
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 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,

[Signature]

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

Enclosure