

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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

MAY 18 1999

RECEIVED



MAY 21 1999

FRESNO COUNTY
PUBLIC WORKS & DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Ms. Gina Francis
County of Fresno
Public Works and Development Services Department
2220 Tulare Street, Sixth Floor
Fresno, California 93721

Dear Ms. Francis:

We have reviewed the notice of preparation of a draft environmental impact report/notice of public scoping meeting for the Fresno County general plan update and provide the following comments:

The general plan area contains floodways and levees over which The Reclamation Board has jurisdiction. Section 8710 of the California Water Code requires that a Reclamation Board permit be obtained prior to start of any work, including excavation and construction activities, if projects are located within floodways or project levee sections.

Section 7 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 23, states that additional information, such as geotechnical exploration, soil testing, hydraulic or sediment transport studies, biological surveys, environmental surveys and other analyses may be required at any time prior to Board action on the application.

Section 8 of the Regulations requires that applications submitted to the Board include a completed environmental questionnaire and a copy of environmental documents prepared for the project. For any foreseeable significant environmental impacts, mitigation for such impacts shall be proposed. Applications are reviewed for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

Also, pursuant to Section 113(b) of the Regulations, the Board does not permit structures for human habitation within designated floodways.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. For further information, please contact Carol Calton at the above address or telephone (916) 653-9898.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon M. Anderson".

Jon M. Anderson, Chief
Floodway Protection Section