

From: Thomas Pogue [mailto:tpogue@PACIFIC.EDU]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2011 9:11 AM
To: 'Elizabeth Soderstrom'
Cc: Hastings, Lauren@DeltaCouncil
Subject: Delta ESP Independent Review Panel's Comment No. 5 on Weaknesses
Importance: High

Dear Elizabeth/Lauren,

Please forward this to the review panel for their reference. I also have Dr. Pyke's response regarding their fourth comment on the ESP's weaknesses that I will forward shortly.

Best regards,
Thomas Pogue

Re: Weakness No.5

We agree that emergency response planning should give the highest priority to public safety. We did not emphasize this because we take it as a given. The attached copy of Chapter 5 flags the single reference in the report to public safety. As explained in the comment, it was not intended that this language downplay the importance of public safety but rather it was intended to explain that while this was the main emphasis in the counties planning processes, it was not the only issue involved in emergency preparedness, response and recovery. We are also attaching two additional documents which indicate the status of emergency response planning in the Delta in more detail. One is a draft of a report generated by a Multi-Hazard Coordination Task Force that was formed by the State in response to legislation. We had not included the detail from this report because it is still in the process of being finalized, but this is a draft that was distributed at a meeting of the Delta Stewardship Council. The second document is a proposal supported by the Delta Protection Commission for allocation of funding by DWR for some of the measures that are recommended in the Task Force report. Although these two documents illustrate appropriate concern for the relevant issues with some emphasis on life safety, they also tend to reinforce our conclusion that this sort of planning is presently fragmented and that it is desirable that both levee improvements and emergency planning, response and recovery be brought under the control of a single agency which can then make a rational allocation of the available resources.

Re: Weakness No. 4

We will provide more detail on our cost estimates for further improvement of Delta levees later in the week.

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