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8/28/99

Dear Lester,

I'm here on the American River with Michael Fischer and staff of the Hewlett Foundation. Friends of the River is hosting the trip. I am impressed by the scale of the rafting operation and the depth of the environmental perspective. I decline Fox's invitation to state blanket opposition to new surface storage facilities. The facts I have been given are insufficient, of course, for me to judge the need for more storage to serve the future needs of people, industry, and the environment. But I do urge you not to underestimate the intensity of these advocates — as I know you understand.

Best regards,

Steve Johnson