

# THE CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT



In years with normal precipitation, the Central Valley Project (CVP) stores and distributes about 20 percent of the state's developed water-7 million acre-feet-and generates over 5 billion kilowatt hours of energy. The project's benefits touch every American who buys grapes, lettuce, canned tomatoes or a cotton shirt made from San Joaquin Valley crops. The widespread availability of low-cost water and power also brought manufacturing and commerce; service, entertainment and defense industries; and millions of jobs to the state. But the major redistribution of such a critical resource has not occurred without conflict. Throughout its history, the CVP has been mired in controversy, and no more so than today.