

Note: This is a working draft that will be reviewed by the REPOG in the August Meeting. All the participants in the REPOG will be named in this document unless they opt out.

Monterey Regional Plenary Oversight Group Articles of Confederation

Identifying Water Supplies that are “Affordable, Attainable, and Implementable”

June 25, 2007

The Monterey Regional Plenary Oversight Group (REPOG), formerly referred to as the Monterey Regional Water Supply Reliability Collaboration, was formed during a process begun by the Division of Ratepayer Advocates (DRA) of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), with the assistance of the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC). DRA and UCSC are engaged in a project with the goal of developing a comprehensive water resource plan for the *Monterey Region*. To accomplish this goal, DRA has been facilitating a series of meetings, or dialogues, with all interested parties during 2007. The objective of the dialogues is to achieve consensus through collaboration among the various interested parties on a solution, or perhaps several complementary solutions, to supplying the water needs of the *Monterey Region* in a cost-effective and sustainable way.

In an effort to clarify the basis and methods of collaboration, the Articles of Collaboration were drafted by the Regional Plan Technical Work Group and generally accepted by participating parties of the REPOG. Supplemental to the established Articles of Collaboration, these Articles of Confederation enumerate the *mutual objectives* amongst REPOG participants, and seek to reflect the evolution of both the association amongst participating parties and the process in which parties are engaged.

The Articles of Confederation are as follows:

- I. Participation in the REPOG is open to all *parties of interest* at any point in the dialogue process. *Parties of interest* include, but are not limited to: agencies, governments, companies, organizations, and individuals. Participation in the REPOG as a *party of interest* is open to participation from and inclusion of municipalities and sub-regions of Monterey County on a continual basis.
- II. The existence of the REPOG and the basis for involvement of its participants, named below, are founded upon the pursuit and achievement of the following mutual objectives:
 - a. Develop a water resource plan for the *Monterey Region* in cooperation with the public and private entities that will sponsor those projects and management programs along with the citizens and stakeholder groups they serve.
 - i. This plan will *identify* water supply sources to meet the long-term needs of the *Monterey Region* and sufficiently address the following considerations:
 1. reliability;
 2. efficiency;
 3. flexibility;
 4. affordability;

- 5. attainability;
- 6. implementability; and
- 7. governance
- ii. These considerations together imply diversity of identified water supply sources and incorporate political, socioeconomic, and environmental concerns.
- iii. Cease water overdraft from supply sources including, but not limited to, the Carmel River and Seaside Basin as timely as possible.
- iv. Explore opportunities to resolve seawater intrusion issues and water supply needs in North Monterey County and the Castroville area.
- v. Explore opportunities to enhance water supply reliability in the Salinas area.
- vi. Work to maintain a timeline for the development of the Monterey Regional water supply through implementation of the REPOG plan that is synchronized with the progress of the Coastal Water Project plans and consistent with REPOG milestones
- b. Provide a conduit for communication and dissemination of water resource information to the public

III. The geopolitical boundary of the *Monterey Region*, as referred to by the REPOG in meetings, work documents and development of the water resource plan, is inclusive of the municipalities and sub-regions in Monterey County whose representatives participate in and attend the REPOG, and exclusive of the municipalities and sub-regions whose representatives have not participated in or attended REPOG meetings, as participants are unable to identify and integrate the needs of non-participants. Therefore, a municipality's or sub-region's inclusion is dependent on representation at and involvement with the REPOG as a *party of interest* as described in Section I, and are represented by those named below. The REPOG on its own can only facilitate the appropriate, feasible regional project plans in cooperation with its members who represent agencies with the authority to finance, build, and/or purvey water and its members who are hired, elected, or appointed to represent water customers.

Whereas the parties named below recognize their participation in the REPOG and representation of their respective agencies, governments, companies, organizations, or selves.

Participant, On behalf of, Date