

Draft Meeting Notes

Potable Water and Distribution System Work Group

April 5, 2007 9:30 AM to Noon

Chairperson Kasower called the meeting to order and described the work group purpose and format. The work group is to examine new potable water supplies for the Monterey region from a number of perspectives:

- Projects that improve the financial and economic characteristics of the Coastal Water Project (CWP) and increase the chances for successful implementation. This could even be a completely new project or set of projects or just improvements to the proposed CWP.
- Expanded use of recycled water from MRWPCA that ultimately could be mixed with source water for a new desalination plant and possibly reduce the treatment costs to meet State Water Resources Control Board Decision 95-10.
- Other potable projects that would go beyond just satisfying the regulatory demands of State Water Resources Control Board Decision 95-10 to provide reliable water supplies to the region.
- Capacities could be adjusted based on the work from the Non-Potable and Conservation Work Groups.
- All work groups are required to report on their status to the Regional Plenary Oversight Group (REPOG).

Attendees

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| Marc Lucca | Marina Coast Water District |
| George Riley | Citizens for Public Water |
| Andy Bell | Monterey Peninsula Water Management District |
| Jonas Minton | Planning Conservation League |
| Eric Tynan | Castroville Water District |
| Howard Gustafson | Marina Coast Water District |
| Jeff Cattaneo | Marina Coast Water District |
| Curtis Weeks | Monterey County Water Resources Agency |
| Steve Leonard | California-American Water Company |
| Kent Von Aspern | Marina Coast Water District (Carollo Engineers) |
| Steve Matarazzo | City of Sand City |

Observers

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| Manuel G. Fierro | Citizens for Public Water |
| Eric Zigas | California Public Utilities Commission (ESA Water) |

Marc Lucca presented a distribution system/pipeline wheeling partnership proposal opportunity. The opportunity is to economize on any water supplies moving through Marina to meet demand to the south such as the Seaside Basin Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project, by collaborating on pipelines and entering a wheeling agreement with MCWD. The work group discussed the potential economic benefits that include:

- Capital cost savings potential
- Timing for determining partners and capital commitments

- System redundancy benefits
- Potential streamlining of permits required

Institutional challenges were discussed that include

- Need for clarity about the water replacement, reliability, or growth inducement characteristics
- Need for defining and metering water from the water rights and interbasin transfer perspectives
- Water quality issues of accounting for “who benefits and who pays” issues
- Consideration of life-cycle costs and benefits for the partners

The work group members agreed that this project and other like it should be examined. It was noted that there is very little time to vacillate on this proposal since the MCWD intends to begin construction on its system in the near future.

The work group also discussed the sources of water that could be part of the supply that is wheeled through the MCWD system. It was generally agreed that near term potential supplies for the demands south of Marina would not be forthcoming from the Salinas River as the scheduled projects and water rights are focused on satisfying demands in the North County. The potential new sources of water for the ASR project and other demands south of Marina would come from either slant wells or abandoned agricultural wells that are too salty to use for irrigation, or open ocean intake or collection and transport alternatives.

Next Steps

More evaluation will continue on the pipeline/wheeling project. MCWD and Cal Am Water Company will continue to evaluate the project.

A presentation of the pipeline/wheeling project will be presented at the next Regional Plenary Oversight Group Meeting scheduled for April 25, 2005.