



Date: October 30, 2003
To: Members, Staff Work Group on Urban Water Use Measurement
From: Eric Poncelet and Bennett Brooks, CONCUR
Re: Key Outcomes: October 15, 2003 Staff Work Group Meeting

Thank you for participating in the Urban Water Use Measurement Staff Work Group meeting held October 15, 2003 in Sacramento. Below please find a brief summary of key outcomes from the meeting.

I. Participants

The following Urban Water Use Measurement Work Group members participated in the October 15, 2003 meeting:

Jeff Barnickol, SWRCB	Betsy Reifsnider, Friends of the River (by phone)
Mary Ann Dickinson, CUWCC	Mike Hollis, MWD of Southern CA (by phone)
Nadine Feletto, DHS	Dick Bennett, EBMUD (by phone)
Lucille Billingsley, USBR	Luis Generoso, San Diego Water Department (by phone)
Ed Osann, NRDC (by phone)	Roberta Borgonovo, CA League of Women Voters (by phone)
Joe Lima, Modesto Irrigation District	

Facilitation team members present included Tom Gohring (California Bay-Delta Authority Assistant Deputy Director, Water Management), and Bennett Brooks and Eric Poncelet (both of CONCUR, Inc.).

II. Meeting Materials

The following meeting materials were provided in advance of or at the meeting (meeting materials are available on the California Bay-Delta Authority's website):

- Agenda and Discussion Notes
- Draft Definition of Appropriate Urban Water Use Measurement
- Strawman Implementation Approach – Introduction and Summary
- Strawman Draft Implementation Approach
- Proposed Revisions to Draft Definition of Appropriate Urban Water Use Measurement
- Roster—Urban Water Use Measurement Staff Work Group

III. Key Outcomes

A. Updates:

Staff Work Group Representation Changes: Work Group representation has undergone the following changes:

- Jeff Barnickol, Statewide Assistance Section Chief for the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), has joined the Work Group.
- Nadine Feletto, Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund of the Department of Health Services (DHS), has joined the Work Group.
- Steve Macaulay, Executive Director of California Urban Water Agencies (CUWA), has joined the Work Group.

Assembly Bill 514: AB 514 has been signed by the Governor.

Agricultural Water Use Measurement Panel Report. The Final Report of the Independent Panel on Appropriate Measurement of Agricultural Water Use has been finalized and is available on the WUE subsection page of the CBDA website.

B. Discussion of Revised Draft Definition of Appropriate Urban Water Use Measurement

1. **Broad Work Group Support:** Authority staff and consultants presented the revised version of the Draft Definition, highlighting key questions that still needed to be addressed. Work Group members considered each section of the revised draft definition in turn. Work Group members expressed their continued broad support for the document and characterized it as a solid foundation from which to examine a proposed implementation approach.
2. **Key issues addressed:** Participants discussed the following key issues:
 - *Water supply measurement.* Participants agreed that the draft definition did not need to specifically address water quality measurement, as this is currently adequately being handled by DHS.
 - *Waste water influent measurement.* Participants agreed that wastewater effluent measurements could serve as a proxy for wastewater influent. Both effluent and influent will suffer from the same infiltration problems.
 - *Self-supplied groundwater users.* Participants discussed the relationship between self-supplied users and the broader need for improved groundwater measurement. Participants recommended that the definition account for the fact that groundwater extraction measurements are already required for adjudicated basins. Participants discussed possible thresholds at which groundwater measurement should be required for self-supplied users. Some suggested that the need for measurement be determined by water balance

analysis needs. Others noted that limiting measurement to net groundwater use fails to address the role of beneficial uses in groundwater consumption. Tom Gohring stated that these ideas would be considered in the next revision of the proposed definition.

- *Landscape metering.* Participants addressed draft language that had been proposed for irrigated ornamental landscape water use. Participants agreed that significant potential benefits reside in this area, as landscape water use constitutes a relatively large fraction of all urban water use, and as relatively little measurement currently occurs in this domain. The discussion also flagged some concerns about cost-effectiveness. Participants discussed the need for establishing thresholds for the types/sizes of landscapes that would be affected. Tom Gohring Participants committed to consider the discussion and put forth a formal proposal at the next meeting.
- *Multi-family dwelling submetering.* Participants addressed draft language that had been proposed for multi-family dwelling submetering. Participants noted the potential value of measuring single units in multi-unit buildings but also shared the following concerns regarding multi-unit submetering: information on potential water savings and cost effectiveness is incomplete, the current generation of devices are not sufficiently accurate, and submetering accuracy standards are not yet developed. Participants generally acknowledged the need for more research and product development in this area.

C. Discussion of Strawman Draft Implementation Approach

1. **General Work Group Support:** Authority staff and consultants presented an overview of the strawman draft Implementation Approach and discussed the primary institutional authority requirements (i.e., legislative/statutory, administrative, and budgetary) involved. Overall, Work Group members agreed that the strawman draft Implementation Approach was a good first step forward.
2. **Key discussion items:** Participants commented on the following key topics:
 - *Need for Legislation.* Participants discussed the pros and cons of pursuing legislative authority for the implementation actions proposed. Tom Gohring reiterated the Authority's view that legislation should be pursued only as a last resort. Other participants noted that effective implementation of the definition may require a strong legislative mandate and that the CALFED ROD did anticipate some level of required legislation.
 - *SWRCB/EPA involvement in wastewater discharge measurement and reporting.* Jeff Barnickol noted that EPA is only the funding source and that the State Board is in charge of all implementation.

IV. Next Steps

A. Next Meeting of Staff Work Group

The next Staff Work Group meeting is scheduled for October 30 from 12:30 - 3:45 PM in Sacramento. The goals of this meeting are to: 1) confirm changes made to the definition and address any outstanding issues, and 2) address in greater detail the proposed implementation approach. [Note: This meeting is now postponed.]

B. Stakeholder check-back with their organizations

During the October 15 meeting, stakeholders were requested to check back with others in their organizations regarding the proposed Implementation Approach. In particular, this includes:

- Water purveyors to check back regarding:
 - the proposed database described as the preferred action option in section I.A.
 - the source water measurement requirements detailed in section II.A (of both the definition and the implementation approach). Check in with utility operations personnel.
- Smaller water purveyors to consult among each other to verify that the particular needs/concerns of smaller purveyors are being adequately addressed.

C. Documents to be revised and produced:

Authority staff and consultants will revise the Draft Definition and the Strawman Draft Implementation Approach documents based on the comments received during the October 15, 2003 Urban Water Use Measurement Staff Work Group meeting. These documents will also incorporate changes stemming from any additional Work Group comments submitted as well as continuing Authority staff and consultant deliberations.