

Subcommittee on Drinking Water Quality
Draft Report
On the Meeting of February 8, 2002
To the
Bay Delta Public Advisory Committee

The Drinking Water Quality Subcommittee met on February 8, 2002 (the meeting agenda is attached). This Report provides a summary of the meeting and reports to the Bay Delta Public Advisory Committee on two issues as requested by the Chair:

- 1) Development of the Subcommittee Workplan for the next twelve months with key items to be accomplished;
- 2) Measures for success for the Subcommittee for that Workplan.

The Draft Workplan for the Subcommittee is attached, along with its measures for success.

Meeting Summary

Membership

The Subcommittee reviewed the membership and the process for adding members with expertise in the following areas:

- Medicine/Public Health/Epidemiology/Epidemic
- Consumer Affairs
- Domestic and Industrial Wastewater
- Watershed Source Control
- Treatment Technology
- Recycled Water
- Small Water Systems
- Resource and/or Health Economics

It was recommended that Environmental Justice be represented in some fashion on the Subcommittee. No other areas for membership were suggested. A subcommittee consisting of the Co-Chairs, Tim Quinn and Tom Zuckerman will consider potential membership and the Co-Chairs will recommend the members to the Bay Delta Public Advisory Committee (BDPAC) for appointment.

Action Item: Make recommendations to the BDPAC chair by the March 12 BDPAC meeting. Co-chairs will forward the names of current BDPAC members and urban agency members who will serve on the DWS to the BDPAC chairs asap. (Tim Quinn, Tom Zuckerman, Martha Guzman, Martha Davis, plus Walt Wadlow and Pankaj Parekh)

Responsibilities of the Subcommittee

The Subcommittee reviewed its key responsibilities and discussed them at length. The Subcommittee concluded that the direction from the BDPAC Chair to report to the BDPAC on a workplan for the next twelve months and measures for success are an opportunity to focus on:

- 1) helping CALFED meet its drinking water quality objectives by developing a strategic plan for the CALFED Drinking Water Quality Program;
- 2) the critical milestones CALFED must meet over the next seven years in its Drinking Water Quality Program, and
- 3) suggestions for adjustments to the schedule and priorities that CALFED may have to make (due to funding levels or other obstacles to meeting the current schedule)

It was decided that the key things to accomplish in the next year are:

- 1) Completion of the committee membership;
- 2) A review of CALFED objectives, ROD commitments, the Phase II (?) Plan, the EIR/EIS Drinking Water Quality Plan and ROD linkages;
- 3) Development of a Draft First Strategic Plan for Drinking Water Quality for Stage 1, by Strategic Plan by December 2002. (The Draft Plan will detail the most important milestones for the next year, while later years will necessarily be more general because some future milestones will depend on earlier outcomes; the final Strategic Plan will require periodic updates as the Program moves forward), and
- 4) A Retreat or Workshop on the meaning of "Equivalent Level of Public Health Protection" and the start of a scientific review and stakeholder process to reach specific targets for CALFED, with a completion of the framework for the process by June 2002.

An important item that is related to the ability of CALFED to meet its Drinking Water Quality goals is the active participation of agencies designated to be responsible for the program, including the Department of Health Services, the State Water Resources Control Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. These agencies should have an active role in both implementing and funding the CALFED Water Quality Program. Within this topic there is also the question of designating a responsible agency and/or MOU for the program long term.

Other business items under this section of the agenda were location of meetings, conference call meetings and reimbursements. The committee agreed that meetings would be held in locations generally accessible to members and interested parties, but that meeting in other locations in the State, including the Bay Area, Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys and Southern California, would be useful and allow input from important stakeholder communities. It was suggested that if the BDPAC meets in other areas of the State, then the Subcommittee might meet on the prior or following day in the same location. Conference calls can be used for meetings, but a location for the meeting is required (*i.e.*, the Subcommittee cannot meet by conference call only with no meeting location set). A final issue discussed under this item was travel reimbursements for members of the committee. CALFED staff stated that they were reviewing how to accommodate this and will report back.

Action Items: Develop a draft workplan and measures for success for the next twelve months by February 25 to include in the BDPAC Agenda package. Gartrell and Young are to start the draft, with review by Quinn and Zuckerman. CALFED to report back on travel reimbursements.

Equivalent Level of Public Health Protection

John Andrew led the discussion on this topic. He reviewed the past work of the Delta Drinking Water Council and a draft plan for starting the process of defining “Equivalent Level of Public Health Protection”. The Subcommittee discussed this issue and concluded a workshop or retreat of the members on the subject would be useful (and therefore the membership should be decided in a very timely fashion) and that the process would necessarily rely upon scientific knowledge. The workshop or retreat could be used to define the scope of any scientific panel or group that might be required.

Action Item: After the membership is decided, CALFED should organize a Subcommittee meeting in a retreat or workshop setting that will allow the subcommittee to focus on this issue.

Next Meeting and agenda:

March 18, 1 to 4 pm

Draft Agenda:

Review meeting notes of February 8.

Review and comment on the Draft Workplan and Measures of Success.

Development a schedule of meetings and actions required to develop a draft Strategic Plan for meeting the CALFED ROD objectives for Drinking Water Quality

Workshop or retreat for developing the scope necessary to define an Equivalent Level of Public Health Protection.