

California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee Water Supply Subcommittee October 8, 2003 Meeting Summary

Bonderson Building Hearing Room
9:00 a.m. to noon

Welcome and Introductions -9:10 am

The following subcommittee members and alternates attended the meeting:
Steve Hall, Richard Denton, Tim Quinn, Van Tenney, Mike Rippey, Joan Maher, Bernice Sullivan, and Lloyd Fryer.

The meeting focused on the following agenda items:

1. Common Assumptions Update
 - o CALSIM II Baseline Assumptions
 - o Surface Storage Program Progress Report
2. Briefing on Third Party Impacts to Market Transfers
3. Briefing on recent developments in the South Delta Improvements and the Bay-Delta Programs

Agenda Items and Discussions

- I. Common Assumptions Update (Presenters - Tom Gohring and Sean Sou)

CALSIM II Baseline Assumptions

Staff presented a brief update of recent activities performed by the common assumptions effort. A draft work-in-progress Proposed CALSIM II Baseline Inputs for Common Assumptions was distributed that outlined an existing and two future baseline modeling scenarios (See meeting materials). The purpose of the baselines is to set a common benchmark for the environmental documentation for the CALFED Surface Storage Project studies.

Comments:

The discussion of committee members and audience centered on details of the assumptions presented, process of updating assumptions, potential changes in future baseline conditions stemming from the recent Napa Proposal and OCAP modeling, how interested parties could provide input into the assumptions including peer review. Steve Hall mentioned he was working on the baseline demarcation issue which would feed into the common assumptions effort as well. There was a question if the San Luis Reservoir low point problem was assumed fixed in the future conditions. Finally, there were several offers to provide additional water demand information.

Action Items:

- 1) By request of the subcommittee, Tom and Sean will schedule a technical workshop of interested water agency modelers and environmental representatives to review and provide input into the baseline assumptions.

- 2) Tom and Sean will report on the outcome of this meeting at the next Water Supply Subcommittee meeting on November 12, 2003.

Surface Storage Program Progress Report

California Bay-Delta Authority and DWR management has asked for a Surface Storage Program Progress Report presentation to the BDPAC on December 10, 2003. The report is to provide information to interested stakeholders on the full range of potential benefits each CALFED storage project could offer. Several operating scenarios will be modeled and results presented for each project. As an example, the North-of-the-Delta Offstream Storage Project Scenarios were presented. Staff briefed the Subcommittee on the purpose and collaboration underway to produce a report and briefing.

Comments:

There were many questions over the purpose, the process to prepare the report, and its ultimate use. The Subcommittee agreed that such a report should be reviewed first by the Water Supply Subcommittee and include the Subcommittee's comments and recommendations. The report will then be transmitted to the BDPAC by the Subcommittee.

Action Items:

- 1) The Subcommittee tasked Tom and Sean to present the analysis and draft report to the next subcommittee meeting on November 12, 2003, and
- 2) The Subcommittee will transmit the final report to the BDPAC.

2.) Third Party Impacts to Market Transfers (Presenter – Richard Hunn)

Mr. Richard Hunn presented a study performed by the California Bay-Delta Authority Water Transfer Program on perceptions of third party interest groups on compensation and mitigation for water transfer impacts. The study addressed short term water transfers but the presenter thought the results would apply to long term transfers as well. The study indicated that affected individuals felt they should be compensated directly with money, job retraining or education. A common viewpoint expressed was the need to involve the local communities in the water transfer decision making process in identifying potential impacts, appropriate compensation, and mechanisms for administration.

Comments:

The Subcommittee expressed many concerns about the study design and results. Some members thought the document was incomplete and focused on negative impacts in particular regions. They noted the report did not address benefits of water transfers in other areas. Commenters suggested analyzing transfers on a net benefit to society basis which could lead to a goal of maximizing benefits such as job growth in both farm and urban areas. It appeared to some members that Metropolitan Water District input to the study was not considered. Several Subcommittee members and attendees cited respected studies and sources of information readily available that were not considered. Potential mitigation actions were also not included. There was strong opposition to use of this study in developing CALFED policy.

Action items:

- 1) It was requested that the detailed report be posted on the Water Supply Subcommittee's webpage for all to review and comment.
- 2) Steve Hall will prepare a letter to the Environmental Justice Subcommittee summarizing Water Supply Subcommittee concerns which included, among others:
 - a. The study was too narrowly focused and not balanced,
 - b. It was too abstract and needs to be specific to a particular water transfer, and
 - c. The study should not be used to support CALFED policy decisions.

3) South Delta Improvements and the Bay-Delta Program (Presenter – Patrick Wright)

Mr. Patrick Wright, Director of the California Bay-Delta Authority, explained the recent efforts to develop a coordinated plan of operations for the SWP/CVP and that the plan is the basis for a larger package of CALFED projects known as the preferred program alternative in the CALFED ROD. The coordinated operations proposal provides system flexibility that will help meet multiple CALFED objectives. A CALFED mid-stage package, based on the coordinated operations proposal, is being developed which includes the EWA Program, South Delta Improvements Program, the Freeport Regional Water Project, and the OCAP. (See the Integrated Key Milestones Table in meeting materials) A draft mid-stage package will be released in November 2003 and one Biological Opinion will be written for the whole package and finalized in July 2004. This mid-stage package will allow the CALFED program to move ahead in a balanced manner. All projects will receive public review and input and will not circumvent the CALFED ROD.

Comments:

Attendees questioned if the Stockton dissolved oxygen solution would be included in the mid-stage package and if upstream impacts would be considered. The answer was yes to both. Patrick Wright added that some projects may need separate EIR/S's since they were considered "Complementary Actions" under the CALFED Programmatic EIR/S.

Action Items:

1. Mr. Wright's presentation will be posted on the Subcommittee's webpage.

Conclusion

Steve Hall informed attendees that the next meeting was scheduled for November 12, 2003 and current agenda items were:

- 1) Briefing on In Delta Storage Project study findings
- 2) Update on the Storage Program Progress Report for the Dec 10th BDPAC meeting
- 3) Report the outcome of the technical workshop with agency modelers and stakeholders on the Proposed CALSIM II Baseline Inputs for Common Assumptions.
- 4) Briefing on the Shasta Enlargement project.
- 5) Status report on the development of Bulletin 160