

Agenda Item: 9
Meeting Date: May 13, 2004

California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee

Storage Program. Surface Water Storage Investigations: Update on Criteria for Workplan Priorities

Summary: This briefing will provide an update on the development of criteria that can contribute to making decisions on the prioritization of the CALFED Program surface storage projects.

Recommended Action: This is an informational item only. No action will be taken.

Background

At the recent February BDPAC and March Authority meetings, DWR provided a Surface Storage Progress Report. The report noted that the remaining \$20 million of the original \$50 million in Proposition 50 funding will not be adequate to complete the necessary environmental documentation, feasibility studies and permitting for the five surface storage projects.

State General Funds were authorized in Years 1 through 3 of program implementation, but were significantly reduced in Years 2 and 3. Starting in Year 3 (November 2002), DWR shifted the source of \$6.5-million in State funding from General Funds to Proposition 50, which provided \$50 million for surface storage investigations. In addition to funding for the five storage projects, assessments have been made for bond issuance, Science Program support, and common assumptions work. After the current State fiscal year, Year 4, approximately \$20 million will be available for future work on the five storage projects. To date, Federal funding has also been a limiting factor in meeting the ROD schedules.

Approximately \$41 million will be required to complete all planned work on the five surface storage investigations over the next two fiscal years, while only \$20 million of State funding is relatively secure.

To maximize the use of remaining available Proposition 50 funding, establishing criteria that prioritizes future work efforts is essential. This briefing will introduce some preliminary concepts and criteria that can contribute to making decisions on all of the surface storage projects. Also, a process for including stakeholder feedback at the Water Supply Subcommittee's June 23, 2004 meeting will be recommended.

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