

Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee  
Joint Meeting of the Environmental Justice and Drinking Water Subcommittees  
Minutes  
Meeting of July 22, 2005

There was a joint meeting of the Drinking Water Subcommittee and the Environmental Justice Subcommittee on July 22 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at 101 Eighth Street in Oakland, CA. DWS chair Greg Gartrell kicked off the meeting with introductions. A list from the voluntary sign-in sheet follows the meeting summary. Unless otherwise noted, all PowerPoint presentations are available on the CBDA Water Quality Program web site.

***Meeting Summary***

2005 Consolidated Grants

Leslie Laudon gave a brief overview of the SWRCB's 2005 Consolidated Grants solicitation and selection process. There is about \$152 million available with varying amounts in 8 different programs including of \$3.4 million remaining for the CALFED Drinking Water Quality Program. However, the DWQP funding will need to be re-appropriated. SWRCB DFA staff is developing guidelines now starting a two-step selection process that will end in late 2006. DWS members asked questions about how CALFED criteria would be applied and what programs in the Consolidated Grants process might be able to fund CALFED projects. In addition to the \$3.4 million in CALFED DWQP Prop 50 funds, there are several programs that could apply including Prop 40 IRWM. All grant program information is available on the SWRCB web site by clicking on the "\$" icon on the home page.

San Luis Drainage Feature Evaluation

Gerald Robbins, USBR, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the history of the San Luis Drain, litigation history, the geographical setting, and the current draft EIS. Although there are a number of "in-valley" and "out of valley" alternatives described in the draft EIS with no preferred alternative selected yet, the USBR expects that one of the in-valley alternatives will be selected. This would include land retirement, water use efficiency measures, drainage reuse, drainage treatment, and evaporation ponds. Several questions were asked about how socio-economic impacts of the alternatives were addressed in the EIS. The response was that socio-economic impacts are addressed and that interested parties are encouraged to comment on the EIS. Comments are due by August 1, 2005. Other questions addressed the cost of the selected alternative, who would bear the cost of the selected alternative, and who represents public trust in the process. At this point there is not sufficient funding for any of the alternatives and it is not entirely clear how costs will be distributed. Drainage Feature EIS documents and related information are available on the web at <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/sccaosld/index.html>. Interested parties can also contact Sam Cervantes, 916-978-5189 for additional information.

FWUA & MWDSC Water Management Partnership

Tim Quinn, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and Ron Jacobsma, Friant Water Users Authority, teamed up on a PowerPoint presentation on water management partnership progress. The presentation showed the geographic, water quality, and infrastructure setting that prompted the pilot project looking at the feasibility of exchanging higher quality western Sierra water for SWP water. The presentation included a set of foundational principals guiding

development of an exchange program. There were a number of questions about how an exchange project might impact San Joaquin Valley municipal water agencies and downstream flow, restoration, and water quality in the San Joaquin River, and potential impacts on other SWP operations (like San Luis Reservoir). These questions included a request for clarification of the concept of water “lost” to the San Joaquin River downstream of FWUA. The presenters said that a significant fraction of the water that leaves the FWUA project area does not make it to the lower river. The presenters stated that progress had been stalled by litigation on the use of San Joaquin River water. \$2.15 million of the \$20 million available from Prop 13 has been spent. It was suggested that the FWUA/MWD partnership come back with progress reports in the future. They agreed that they would but would like to expand the updates to include a broader picture of MWD ELPH activities. EJ representatives urged the project partners to address EJ issues as the pilot projects are developed.

#### Bay Area Watershed Plan

Jennifer Krebs, California Coastal Conservancy, gave a brief presentation of the efforts to develop an ecosystem based sustainable watershed plan for the San Francisco Bay Area. The planning process is just in its initial stages but is intended to fit with Bay Area IRWMP plans. Information about the watershed plan effort is available on the web at <http://www.bayareawatershedplan.net>.

#### CVDWP

Karen Larsen gave a brief update on Central Valley Drinking Water Policy development progress. Conceptual models are moving ahead with much of the work at this point is taking place in small workgroups. There was a question about EJ involvement in the process and if the policy would include groundwater. The CVDWP is focused on surface water but groundwater is on the Regional Board’s new triennial review list. Jennifer Clary suggested that the toxic alga *Microcystis* be reconsidered as a constituent of concern.

#### Program Plans

Not discussed in detail. DWS members were asked to note that there is a maximum of \$4 million available for the CALFED Water Quality Program in the State and Federal budgets. Final comments on the program plans are due by Tuesday July 26.

#### Next Meetings

Drinking Water Subcommittee - September 23 – Main topics to be performance measures and regional plans.

Environmental Justice Subcommittee – probably 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September – focus on structural and procedural issues

#### Public Comments

Alisha Dean announced that the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water report on Environmental Justice and water will be released August 17.

Kemba Shakur, Executive Director of Urban Releaf, a community-based urban forestry program located in West Oakland that receives funding from the CALFED Watershed Program introduced her organization and invited meeting participants to visit their offices and view their work.

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***Printed Materials distributed at the meeting***

- *DWS and EJ Meeting Notice and Agenda, July 22, 2005*
- *Drinking Water Subcommittee Draft Minutes, Meeting of May 19, 2005*
- *CALFED Water Quality Program Assessment Report, CBDA, June 2005*
- *Issues with Delta Drinking Water Treatment, CBDA, July 2005*
- *CALFED Pilot Regional Drinking Water Quality (ELPH) Plans, Final Drafts, July 2005 (CD)*
- *FWUA & MWDSC Water Management Partnership, July 22, 2005 (PowerPoint slides)*
- *San Luis Drainage Feature Re-Evaluation Draft EIS, USBR, July 2005 (PowerPoint slides)*
- *Water Quality Program, Multi-Year Program Plan (Years 6-9), CBDA, July 19, 2005*
- *Oversight and Coordination, Multi-Year Program Plan (Years 6-9), CBDA, August 2005*
- *<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/Funding/SmallGrants.htm>, Environmental Justice Small Grants, Cal EPA, 7/18/2005*
- *<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/EnvJustice/>, Cal EPA Environmental Justice Program Homepage, Cal EPA, July 21, 2005*
- *Delta Watershed Fish Project, Training on Fish Contamination (Announcement)*
- *<http://www.catracking.com/sub/eh/htm>, Overview of Environmental Health Tracking*
- *Data and Advocacy: The Role for Environmental Justice, pages 76-77 in "Getting Results" Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial CALFED Science Conference*

***Partial List of Attendees for the EJ/DWS Meeting 7-22-05***

The following attended the meeting:

1. Jennifer Clary
2. Vicki Fry
3. Greg Gartrell
4. Steve Macaulay
5. Robert Neufeld
6. Pankaj Parekh
7. Tim Quinn
8. David Tompkins
9. Walt Wadlow
10. Kevin Wattier
11. Tom Zuckerman
12. Elizabeth Borowiec
13. Dave Forkel
14. Ken McGhee
15. Sam Harader
16. Lisa Holm

17. Karen Larsen
18. Karen Schwinn
19. Lynda Smith
20. Dave Spath
21. Ron Jacobsma
22. Shahla Farahnouk
23. Leslie Laudon
24. Jennifer August
25. Alisha Dean
26. Kim Jefferson
27. Gerald Robbins
28. Terry Cooke
29. Sam Cervantes
30. Jennifer Krebs
31. Michael Warburton
32. Jennifer Krebs