

Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee  
Drinking Water Subcommittee Meeting  
Minutes  
Meeting of May 4, 2006

A meeting of the Drinking Water Subcommittee was held May 4 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at 650 Capitol Mall in Sacramento, CA. Unless otherwise noted, all PowerPoint presentations are available on the CBDA Water Quality Program web site.

***Meeting Summary***

Introductions

Pankaj Parekh started the meeting for DWS chair Greg Gartrell who took over after the first half hour. Pankaj noted that this was the first DWS meeting since September 20005. The group did a round of introductions. A list from the voluntary sign-in sheet follows the meeting summary. The minutes from the previous meeting were adopted without comment.

Update on DWQP Activities

Lisa Holm gave an update on the CALFED Program. Governor Schwarzenegger ordered an independent review of the CALFEED Program last year which was completed in late 2005. The review had three basic components; a review of governance conducted by the Little Hoover Commission, a review of program spending and accomplishments by the Department of Finance, and advice on internal business practices from KPMG. These studies and other information were integrated into a 10-Year Action Plan released 4/20/06. The plan outlines the top priorities for the program including end of Stage 1 decisions (end of 2007) and the transition into Stage 2. Regional drinking water quality planning will continue to be a program priority. The primary end of Stage 1 decision for drinking water quality; to proceed with construction of a “through Delta facility” or not has evolved into a decision about through-Delta versus alternative conveyance options. Other important actions in the 10-Year plan include a Delta Risk Management Study and a Delta Vision process. For the Drinking Water Quality Program, we will focus on what information is important to know in the short term and what information is needed in the long term.

Steve Macaulay announced that there will be a conference at the University of the Pacific June 6-7 on developing a Delta Vision.

End of Stage 1 Decision

Mark Holderman introduced DWR conveyance program staff and gave a presentation on the Franks Tract (FT) project, Delta Cross Channel (DCC) studies, and Through-Delta Facility (TDF) studies. They have completed a Flooded Islands Feasibility Study report and are moving towards designing a Franks Tract pilot project. The most feasible project at this point looks like a temporary operable barrier across False River. The schedule shows pilot project construction starting in 2010. There are considerable technical (width and depth of channel) and regulatory obstacles to overcome (fish studies, navigational issues). The DCC and TDF studies are moving ahead. DWR engineers are working on identifying a location and alignment for a proposed TDF. This is needed before they can model water quality or fish movement. Resource Management Associates (RMA) will be doing the modeling.

Question – How does the schedule, work through 2010, reconcile with the end of Stage 1 decisions scheduled for the end of 2007? Mark didn't know the answer. He indicated some water quality and cost information would be ready by the end of 2007. It was recommended that these projects and end of Stage 1 decisions/information be a standing agenda item.

Question - What will be the public forum for DCC/TDF/FT information? Technical team meetings and email were discussed. The project staff were encouraged to increase the opportunity for stakeholder involvement. This will be increasingly important as we approach the end of Stage 1 decisions. Several on the subcommittee expressed concerns about project funding and schedule.

Question – Are the projects considering water quality impacts other than TDS? They have a limited list of constituents that they can model. There was a fairly lengthy discussion about technical issues.

Lisa gave a short presentation outlining the water quality aspects of the end of Stage 1 decisions (see handout/presentation).

Question – What is DRMS.? Delta Risk Management Study, looking at the possible impacts of levee failures and how to respond to them.

One subcommittee member asked how the DWQP decides what they work on and what goes on the DWS agenda. There was some discussion about how the subcommittee works and its role in the program. Any subcommittee member can recommend items for the agenda, they should send agenda suggestions to Lisa. Lisa can distribute information to the subcommittee.

A concern was expressed about the responsiveness of the agencies to DWS suggestions and their implementation of the CALFED DWQ program. Both the SWRCB and DHS representatives indicated that CALFED goals are addressed to some extent in their grant programs. The subcommittee members encouraged them to continue to do what they can to advance the program. Greg indicated that the “Caves initiative” will address some CALFED objectives.

### Water Quality Program Plan

Lisa gave the program plan presentation.

Question – Can ELPH planning be integrated into the IRWMP grant programs. Lisa thinks that it could fit very well. It would look slightly different for planning inside and outside the CALFED solution area but would be useful in either case. Staff will work with the agencies to do this. A subcommittee member suggested that DWQ targets are essential to good IRWM planning. It was also suggested that DHS participate in the IRWM grant selection process.

### Status of Water Quality Funding

Leah Walker went over the information in the DHS information for the Program Plan handout. They have identified projects that should have CALFED DWQP benefits. Lisa went over the information in the CALFED DWQP projects status handout.

There was a discussion about how EJ needs are identified and met in the grants programs. DHS has had some difficulty finding projects in communities that meet the EJ criteria. Especially in

large cities, there are pockets of EJ need that are difficult to address because the city/service area does not qualify.

### Central Valley Drinking Water Policy

Karen Larsen gave an update on the status of the CVDWP work. Work on conceptual models and monitoring needs is progressing. The final organic carbon report is available and draft conceptual models are under review for nutrients and pathogens. CBDA staff is working with the CVRWQCB and others on a conceptual model for salinity. Work will continue on monitoring and refinement of conceptual models. Other activities include gathering information about water and wastewater treatment, adopted water quality objectives for the constituents of concern, and a recent workshop to brainstorm what might be in DW policy. A summary of the workshop results will be out soon which will recommend next steps (workshops on specific issues). Karen is thinking about holding a public workshop on CVDWP progress and plans this summer.

Question – How far ahead will the project look when it comes to treatment? This is being discussed right now. Comment – California PHGs will play a role in determining treatment needs.

### Next Meeting

Drinking Water Subcommittee – proposed date August 24, 2006 (DWS will meet quarterly from now on) – Send recommendations for agenda topics to Lisa Holm.

### Public Comments

Sonja Wadman, Circle Point, announced that, working for the Corps of Engineers in conjunction with CALFED, DWR, US EPA, and CVRWQCB, they will be hosting a meeting to discuss long term plans for dredge spoils management in the Delta on June 9, 2006.

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

- *DWS Meeting Notice and Agenda, May 4, 2006*
- *Drinking Water Subcommittee Draft Minutes, Meeting of September 23, 2006*
- *CBDA Background on End of Stage 1 Decisions related to Drinking Water Quality*
- *Franks Tract Project Schedule*
- *Water Quality at the End of Stage 1, presentation handout*
- *Draft CBDA Water Quality Program, Program Plan Year-7*
- *Water Quality Program Plan presentation handout*
- *Drinking Water Quality in the proposed “Safe drinking water, water quality and supply, flood control, river and coastal protection bond act of 2006” (Caves bond)*
- *CALFED Bay-Delta Program, 10-Year Action Plan Highlights*
- *DHS Information for CALFED Drinking Water Program Plan, May 2, 2006*
- *CALFED Drinking Water Quality Program Project Status, May 2006*

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

The following attended the meeting:

1. Vicki Fry
2. Greg Gartrell
3. Steve Macaulay
4. Pankaj Parekh
5. David Tompkins
6. Paul Gilbert-Snyder
7. Patricia Fernandez
8. Sam Harader
9. Lisa Holm
10. Karen Larsen
11. Gene Lee
12. Dan Otis
13. Karen Schwinn
14. Lynda Smith
15. Leah Walker
16. Barbara Evoy
17. Ajay Goyal
18. Sean Bagheban
19. Mark Holderman
20. David Martasian
21. Rob Duvall
22. Tim Smith
23. Donna Podger
24. Jim Wilde
25. Sonja Wadman