

Agenda Item: 6
Meeting Date: September 13, 2006

BAY-DELTA PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PERFORMANCE MEASURES – REVIEW OF *DRAFT PHASE 1 REPORT: CORE INDICATORS AND PLAN*

Summary: Working collaboratively, the CALFED implementing agencies have prepared the Draft *Phase 1 Report: Core Indicators and Plan* as part of a renewed effort to develop indicators and performance measures to report on progress towards Program goals. The draft report is being provided for Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee review and comment.

Recommended Action: This is an information item.

Background

The reviews of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program by the Little Hoover Commission and the Department of Finance emphasized the need for CALFED implementing agencies to develop performance measures to report on progress towards Program goals. Indicators and performance measures are used to translate program goals and objectives into measurable benchmarks of program success.

The 10-Year Action Plan gives responsibility to the CALFED implementing agencies to develop performance measures with guidance from the CALFED Science Program. In response, the CALFED implementing agencies formed a subcommittee to direct the development of indicators and performance measures related to the Program objectives and goals. Within the performance measures subcommittee, four subgroups were formed, one for each of the four CALFED objectives: water supply reliability; water quality; ecosystem restoration; and levee system integrity. A technical workgroup was also formed to oversee the integration of various subgroup efforts.

Over the past year, the CALFED Science Program staff has worked with the implementing agencies to refine a framework and develop an approach and plan for developing performance measures. The framework uses three “levels” of indicators: administrative, drivers (including management actions and uncontrollable factors), and outcomes. The framework emphasizes the use of conceptual models to explain linkages between drivers and outcomes and also explains indicators in context of policy making, implementation, and adaptive management.

Draft Phase 1 Report: Core Indicators and Plan

CALFED implementing agencies are using a phased approach to develop indicators and performance measures. The initial task (Phase 1) will identify primary program performance objectives, select the core set of indicators, and determine the availability and comprehensiveness of monitoring data and conceptual models. Phase 1 also presents a schedule and plan and identifies the resources needed to complete the work. The attached draft document, *Phase 1 Report: Core Indicators and Plan*, (Attachment 1) summarizes the activities of the first phase. An appendix to the report (Attachment 2) provides further detail and documentation.

The Draft *Phase 1 Report* shows that the subgroups for each of the four program objectives have differing levels of progress toward performance measures development. Whereas some groups have been able to describe a plan and schedule to complete the work with existing resources, other subgroups have not yet chosen the core set of indicators. All subgroups recognize the need for additional resources in order to analyze and report on existing monitoring data, identify gaps, and develop and implement additional monitoring programs. Without additional staff resources at the implementing agencies to work on indicators and performance measures, only a few outcome indicators or performance measures related to water quality and water supply reliability will be monitored and reported on over the next couple of years.

An overview of the framework and approach were presented and shared with the Independent Science Board (ISB) at its August 15, 2006 meeting. The ISB was asked to provide feedback on the framework, approach, and potential communication products as outlined in the report. The ISB is charged with evaluating and making recommendations about performance measures for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program in order to assure scientific rigor and balanced interpretation of each measure and its updates.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1 – Phase 1 Report: Core Indicators and Plan
Attachment 2 – Phase 1 Report: Appendix

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