

## Integrated Resources Planning Committee

Item #5a

Subject: Update from the IRP Technical Workgroup process

Purpose: The purpose of this oral report is to provide the IRP committee with an update on activities and outcomes from the IRP Technical Workgroup process for May 2015

IRP Committee/May 26, 2015

Integrated Resources Planning Committee (ORAL REPORT required, hide slide )  
Item #5a

This report provides an overview of the IRP member agency technical process activities for May 2015



## Update from the IRP Member Agency Technical Process

Integrated Resources Planning Committee  
Item 5a  
May 26, 2015

## Monthly IRP Technical Process Update

May 26, 2015

- Member Agency Workgroup May 18
  - Imported Supplies
- Water Use Efficiency Meeting May 20
- Upcoming Activities
- IRP Outreach Update

## Member Agency Workgroup

May 18, 2015

- Review of program level assumptions
- CRA issues overview
  - Minimizing supply losses, dealing with drought, and Salton Sea uncertainties
- Discussion highlights
  - Will probability of shortages in the future make storage and programs less effective?
  - How should storage programs be used to best meet future challenges?
  - Should Metropolitan invest in land purchases along the Colorado River?

When we have wet years, can we put water in Lake Mead, or are we forced to put it into the ground? If we put in the ground, won't be as valuable to us in the next drought because it takes time to get it back via the Desert Water/Coachella Program. It's not that we will lose water but we will lose flexibility in dry years. Not be able to store water in Lake Mead will make filling CRA tough.

Do we invest in buying land along the Colorado River? We own 8,000 acres in the Palo Verde Valley. We could pursue further land purchases knowing that it would cost a lot now but would reduce risks going forward.

## Member Agency Workgroup

May 18, 2015

- Review of DWR draft 2015 modeling studies
- SWP issues overview
  - History of Delta environmental regulations, effects of drought on the long-term, IRP delta strategy, California Water Fix/Eco Restore
- Discussion highlights
  - Without a Delta fix will SWP deliveries decline even more in the future?
  - Are there any updated tunnel cost estimates?
  - Is the outlook for a Delta fix better than in former IRP's?

Regulations have reduced reliability of SWP, particularly following ESA listings in the 1990s and 2000s, most recently the updated BiOps released for delta smelt and salmon in 2008-2009.

State to release recirculated EIR/S in Summer 2015

This time is different; political support and billions of dollars invested

# Member Agency Workgroup

May 18, 2015

- Review of MWD's storage and transfer programs
- Central Valley issues overview
  - Emerging Central Valley issues, groundwater levels, aging infrastructure, increased competition , limited transfer windows
- Discussion highlights
  - Long-term transfers are difficult to negotiate given market volatility and thru-Delta risks
  - How can Metropolitan leverage integrated system storage to reduce transfer costs?
  - Should Metropolitan invest in Central Valley land purchases?

(e.g. lower GW levels, aging infrastructure, higher prices, competition, buying approach, windows, frequency)

(e.g. buying at lower prices in wet years vs. costlier dry years, or Central Valley vs. Colorado River markets)

(e.g. most water belongs to districts rather than users)

Prior to this year, highest MWD ever paid for north-of-Delta transfer supply was \$275/AF in 2009.

Last year, prices ranged from \$500/AF to \$600/AF.

This year, prices range from \$665/AF to \$700/AF.

Once you take into account 20% losses, you are looking at \$800 to \$900 per AF to transfer water through the Delta.

Now competing in market with brokers for individual farmers, not just big districts.

Why don't we have a PVID in Sacto Valley? We have approached rice growers districts about transfers but have found economics of rice have gone through the roof, and difficult to tie down a price even 2 years down the road. Also have to deal with uncertainty getting water through the Delta in any given year.

# Water Use Efficiency Meeting

May 20, 2015

- Guided discussion of conservation issues and opportunities
- Discussion highlights
  - Important to provide information and education on many fronts
  - Need to consider that conservation, graywater, and recycled water are interrelated
  - Future conservation may be less about devices and more about behavior and lifestyle

– for consumers and industry, for homeowners and contractors  
; e.g. indoor use that can be more readily recovered in wastewater flow than outdoor use



## Upcoming Technical Process Activities

May/June 2015

- Member Agency Workgroups May 27 and June 11
  - Groundwater/Stormwater
- Water Use Efficiency Meeting June 18
- IRP Committee Meeting June 23
  - Tony Zampello, AGWA – groundwater issues
  - Mark Pestrella, LACDPW – stormwater issues
- Member Agency Workgroup June 24
  - Local Resources (part 1 of 2)

# IRP Technical Outreach

- IRP Website
  - <http://www.mwdh2o.com/mwdh2o/pages/ourwater/irp/index.html>
  - New mwdh2o.com website launching in the next few weeks
- IRP Branding and Logo



www.mwdh2o.com  
Click Spotlight on Water  
Under Water Plans and Other Reports  
Click Water Tomorrow

