

Integrated Resources Planning Committee
Item 6b

Subject: Overview of IRP Phase 1 Policy Inventory and Phase 2 Policy Process

Purpose: To provide an overview of the policy input received throughout the
IRP technical update process

Integrated Resources Planning Committee/December 7, 2015

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This oral report provides an overview of the the policy input received throughout the IRP technical update process



Overview of IRP Phase 1 Policy Inventory and Phase 2 Policy Process

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Internal Process –
Ongoing

MA Technical Process –
MA workgroup meetings twice a month April through August, as needed through October
WUE meetings monthly standing meeting April through July

Board –
Reporting in Feb and March (IRP Committee)
Monthly Updates from MA tech process
Wrapping up around the end of the year, head into Board Policy Process

Following slides breakdown activities at Board and MA levels

IRP Technical Policy Issues

Input for discussion in Phase 2

- Policy issues were compiled through IRP Committee discussion, IRP Technical Workgroup, IRP Issue Paper review, and public outreach
- Main areas for policy discussion:
 - Regional and retail water supply reliability
 - Conservation program and approach
 - Local Resources development and regional role
 - Storage management goals and operational framework
 - Transfers and Exchanges approach

Regional and Retail Water Supply Reliability

- What does the IRP Reliability Goal mean?
- Is the IRP a guarantee of reliability?
- Are shortages of reasonable size and duration acceptable in terms of a Reliability Goal?
- What is the cost of additional levels of reliability?

Conservation Program and Approach

- What should be considered when designing conservation programs in the future? Examples:
 - Efficiency targets and monitoring of “wasteful” users
 - Program consistency (avoiding mid-year changes)
 - Fiscal sustainability
 - New devices for rebates (e.g. cisterns)
- How do we measure the effectiveness of water conservation programs?
- What happens after 20 by 2020?

Conservation Program and Approach

- How does the new model landscape ordinance affect future conservation approaches?
- Are current reductions in water use permanent, and if not, should we and how do we make them permanent?

Local Resource Development

- What criteria should be considered in MWD's development policies for local resource investments?
 - Regional Benefits
 - Cost
 - Shortage year values
- Should new local development be encouraged through adjustments to WSAP?
- Should member agencies be allowed to opt-out of regionally-funded programs?

Local Resource Development

- Should MWD develop, own and operate locally-based supplies?
- Should MWD invest in R&D, and what are the priorities?
 - What is the future of the Foundational Actions Funding Program?
 - What about partnerships and coastal land acquisition?
- Should agencies be responsible for their own reliability or be held responsible for “causing the gap”?

Storage

- How should the region consider local groundwater and surface reservoirs when planning for reliability?
 - What is the interaction between surface reservoirs and local groundwater
- How can Metropolitan help in achieving long-term sustainable groundwater and surface water management?
 - How does this relate to existing definitions of safe yield?

Storage

- What is the regional role or responsibility in meeting supplemental replenishment needs of groundwater basins and surface water reservoirs?
- What are some potential local storage policy areas that need review?
 - Rates, capacity charge, level of service policy, etc.
 - How to distinguish between regional and local benefits? What is the implication?
- Are some parts of the service area more vulnerable than others due to the location of storage?

Water Transfers and Exchanges

- Is the dry-year transfer market a viable source for the future?
- How do water transfers work with storage?

Key Policy Development Areas



Focus on Policy Principles

- Policy principles will help to guide in the review and reformation of program implementation
- Key Programs
 - Conservation Program
 - Local Resources Program/WSAP
 - WSDM Plan review for storage management
 - Water Transfers and Exchanges

