

Basin Monitoring Program Task Force

October 18, 2017

ATTENDEES:

Al Javier, EMWD
Ashley Gibson, YVWD
Bobby Gustafson, City of Riverside
Cindy Li, Regional Board
David Jensen, CDM Smith, Inc.
Edgar Tellez-Foster, CBWM
Eric Lindberg, Regional Board
Greg Herzog, City of Riverside PU
Jennifer McMullin, City of Corona
Joe LeClaire, DBSA

Johnson Yeh, Geoscience
Joshua Aguilar, IEUA
Mark Williams, Geoscience
Robert Eland, Riverside RWQCP
Tim Moore, Risk Sciences
Mark Norton, SAWPA
Zyanya Blancas, SAWPA
Phone: Jayne Joy, EMWD
Phone: Marsha Westropp, OCWD
Phone: Michael Cruikshank, DBSA

Call to Order/Introductions

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force (Task Force) meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) office located at 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California. Brief introductions were made.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of September 19, 2017 Meeting Summary

Edits from Inland Empire Utilities Agency were presented and discussed. Regional Board and City of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District made some minor edits. There being no further discussion, Mark Norton called for a motion.

MOVED, to approval the September 19, 2017 meeting summary as modified.

Results: **Adopted (Unanimously)**

Motion/Second: Javier/Aguilar

Consultant Review Committee Feedback and Recommendation – SAWPA

At the last meeting, the Task Force agreed to form a Consultant Review Committee to evaluate Risk Sciences' work to date and possible scope of work for the upcoming year. The Committee was composed of the following stakeholders: Jennifer Shepardson (City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department), Greg Woodside (Orange County Water District), Edgar Tellez Foster (Chino Basin Watermaster), Al Javier (Eastern Municipal Water District), and Joshua Aguilar (Inland Empire Utilities Agency).

The Committee agreed that Risk Sciences supporting role to the Task Force is very specialized and cannot be matched by other consultants through a competitive RFP process. Consequently, a sole source justification was presented to the SAWPA Commission along with Risk Sciences Task Order RISK374-07. Sufficient funding has been budgeted and collected by the Task Force to complete this work over the coming fiscal year. Task Order RISK374-07 was approved by the SAWPA Commission on October 18, 2017.

Tim Moore, handed out a one page document titled *Suggestions and Recommendations for Risk Sciences Future Support – Oct. 4, 2017 by Basin Monitoring Program Task Force Consultant Review Committee*. Moore stated that the upcoming Ambient Water Quality Update is a milestone and therefore under line item 2 of the handout, Executive Summaries of Milestones activities, he suggested a one page Executive Summary be prepared; Stakeholders agreed and directed Moore to provide said document at the next Task Force meeting.

Proposed Basin Plan Amendment for Inland Empire Utilities Agency Service Area – IEUA

Joshua Aguilar, Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), and Edgar Tellez Foster, Chino Basin Watermaster (CBWM), provided a Salinity Management Update PowerPoint presentation. IEUA and CBWM are collaborating with Wildermuth Environmental, Inc. (WEI) to accomplish Salinity Management, Water Supply, Long-Term Planning and Modeling Efforts.

The Maximum Benefit Plan enables IEUA to use the recycled water for irrigation and groundwater and the ability to maintain a TDS permit; therefore, IEUA has a regional commitment to implement regional programs to manage and reduce TDS. The region has been working for the past 15 years to meet this commitment (e.g. Chino Basin Desalters, self-generating water softener use ordinance, brine line discharge requirements, chemical use optimization in the WWTP, and securing high quality supplemental water). Aguilar then listed the Maximum Benefit Commitments, Salinity Management Programs, and Long-Term Planning Projects that are part of their Salinity Management Update.

Tellez Foster continued the presentation by listing the Scope of Work Summary to the Salinity Management Plan:

- Develop updated modeling tools to evaluate the TDS concentrations of the Chino Basin
- Define planning scenarios
- Evaluate impacts from climate change
- Use updated modeling tools to project the TDS concentrations of the Chino Basin and perform an antidegradation analysis
- Use the results to develop and finalize a regulatory compliance strategy proposal
- Work with the Regional Board throughout this effort

WEI will develop a MT3D-based numerical solute transport model that is based on the 2017 CBWM MODFLOW Model. This model has been reviewed and accepted by all parties; Regional Board has also reviewed and approved the concept scope of work. This MT3D model can be used to test the impacts of different TDS management strategies on future TDS concentrations in the Chino Basin.

Schedule for the Salinity Management Plan efforts is as follows:

- Development of Groundwater Model - May 2018
- Groundwater Modeling & Evaluation - February 2019
- Proposal to RWQCB - April 2019
- Updated Proposal - August 2019
- Environmental Evaluation - November 2019
- Final Documents - December 2019

Final Triennial AWQ Update Vol 1 & Physical Model Update Vol 2 – CDM Smith/DBSA

The final Triennial AWQ Update was submitted to the Regional Board in September; a cover letter was requested and will be submitted. Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc. (DBSA) is scheduled to present a summary of the final Triennial AWQ Update to Regional Board at a workshop on December 15, 2017 held at Orange County Water District; item was agendaized as an informational item. The Task Force was encouraged to attend. A hard copy was provided to Regional Board at the Task Force meeting.

Comments submitted by Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) and Chino Basin Watermaster (CBWM) on the *Technical Memorandum 2: Update of the Physical Characterization of Groundwater Management Zones Santa Ana River Watershed* (TM2) were recently received by DBSA. It was noted that the TM2 is not a Regional Board deliverable, however a final copy will be provided as they are Task Force Stakeholder. CDM Smith and DBSA will review and incorporate comments as an attachment or appendix to TM2. Consultants were asked to contact the Task Force if further analysis derived from the comments is required. Discussion ensued regarding IEUA/CBWM concerns with the accuracy of Chino Basin's calibrated numbers in TM2.

SAR Wasteload Allocation Model Update – Geoscience

Johnson Yeh, Geosciences, provided a PowerPoint presentation on comments to the Technical Memos 1 and 2 for the Wasteload Allocation Model Update (WLAM). Comments were received by OCWD, SAWPA, Regional Board, and IEUA/CBWM. Discussion ensued regarding comments received requesting a peer review to provide the Task Force with a level of confidence as the Task Force moves forward to a new platform. A Task Force Peer Review Workshop for the WLAM was scheduled. It was suggested that agencies bring their modeling technicians to review the hard numbers.

Based on comments received, discussion ensued regarding removing select scope from Task 4 of the contract relating to the optional work for the recharge basins and dairy ponds. It was discussed that this scope will not impact the WLAM. The Task Force voted to remove the scope related to the basins/ponds as deduct, and pay for the effort already preformed.

Southern California Salinity Coalition Study Status – CDM Smith/DBSA/Risk Sciences

Joe LeClaire provided a TDS Trends Study update PowerPoint presentation. The Study included areas from Eastern Municipal Water District (Pilot Study, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, San Bernardino Municipal Water District, Riverside Public Utilities, Orange County Sanitation Department, San Diego County Water Authority, and Los Angeles County Sanitation District. The goal of the Study was to evaluate the long-term trends for salinity in wastewater and recycled water; assess how periodic droughts and various conservation measures may influence these trends; and primary research questions that included “What portion of the increment from use (IFU) can be attributed to water conservation measures?” and “If trends of conservation measures continue, what portion of the IFU can be attributed to water conservation measures?”

TDS Trends Study demonstrated that water conservation measures have lowered water quality, therefore resulting in an increase of TDS. Water conservation measures have also resulted in less quantity of recycled water and less revenue. There is also the issue of infrastructure O& M. Observation data from groups of sewerage agencies rather than individual waste water treatment plants are more reliable due to the population and that operations can divert flows from plant to plant.

There is a Southern California Salinity Coalition Board of Directors meeting on December 7, 2017 in Temecula. The goal is to have the Study’s Technical Memo available to stakeholders prior to the meeting to allow sufficient time for review. Thereafter, Tim Moore, Risk Sciences, will get the results and explore alternative long-term averaging periods (5-10 years) to account for TDS fluctuations during drought periods.

Future Meeting

The Task Force agreed to replace the next Basin Monitoring Program Task Force on November 16, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. with a Peer Review of SAR Wasteload Allocation Model Update meeting. All stakeholders are welcome to participate and are encouraged to bring their modelers.

Adjournment

3:01 p.m.