

# BACWA Recycled Water Committee Meeting

EBMUD Headquarters – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Small Training Room

April 2, 2014

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

## 1) Introductions – Muñoz

- Paul Gilbert-Snyder, EBMUD
- Roanne Ross, Whitley Burchett for Redwood City
- Cheryl Munoz, SFPUC
- Mike Connor, EBDA
- Lorien Fono, BACWA
- Andria Loutsch, CDM Smith for NBWRA
- Erin Mackey, West Yost Associates
- Vince Christian, Regional Water Board
- Hardeep Takhar, Caltrans District 4
- Sam Abudayeh, EBMUD  
*On phone*
- Jayne Strommer, Delta Diablo
- Leah Walker, City of Petaluma
- Peter Kistenmacher, SVCW
- Eric Rosenblum, Enviro Perspectives
- Nathan Hodges, CCCSD
- Luis Jaimes, SCVWD

## 2) Caltrans – Caltrans staff

### a. *Recycled water fill points and availability in the Bay Area*

A representative from Caltrans, Hardeep Takhar, was present at the meeting. State agencies are being required to curtail water use by 20%. Caltrans is looking to reduce their use by 50%. Current non-potable water uses include construction, operations and maintenance, irrigation, soil compaction, dust control, and concrete mixing. Caltrans needs information about the availability and quality of recycled water from POTWs in the Bay Area. We asked for an order of magnitude estimate of how much Title 22 water he thinks they need. A list of agencies with truck fill facilities does not exist. Vince can provide a list of all the agencies that provide recycled water. Central San and Santa Clara Valley Water District, EBMUD, DSRSD, Redwood Shores, Petaluma, SCRWA (Gilroy) as well as others, have truck filling capabilities. Napa may be installing one. Cheryl did some research a year or so back. Caltrans would want to coordinate with local sources on a project-by-project basis. Cheryl said that we could use more details about Caltrans infrastructure to assess the feasibility. Hardeep says that it would be up to the contractors to work out these details. Roanne suggested that Hardeep go out to an existing truck filling station to get a sense of the procedures. SFPUC has been going through this exercise with their street sweepers and understands the infrastructure hurdles. Backflow preventers and air gaps may be required on trucks. Truck filling stations can be as simple as a hydrant, or more elaborate with overhead fill. Some agencies charge for recycled water and some don't. Leah points out that users need to be permitted under their permit. Cheryl will put out a call to this Committee's mailing list see who has fill stations, who plans to install fill stations, and who would be interested in working with Caltrans.

## 3) BAIRWMP & Prop 84 Updates – Muñoz

### a. *Update on BAIRWMP activities*

#### i. *Results of DWR review of BAIRWMP*

DWR finished their 30-day public review of the IRWMP, and there was only one comment, which was that it hadn't been adopted. They approved the Plan, and their approval is out for public review. The deadline to adopt the IRWMP is May 11 for Round 1 grant awardees, which is a Sunday. If any of the Regional awardees fail to adopt, all the Regional awardees are potentially liable and could lose their grant funds.

#### ii. *Plan adopted by the Coordinating Committee on 3/24/14*

b. Update on Prop 84 activities

i. *Round 2 update*

ABAG/SFEP gathering documents for contracting process. If there are any comments on the draft agreements, get them to Jennifer Krebs by April 4.

- (a) Agencies comments on Round 2 Grant Agreement (DWR-ABAG) and/or LPS (ABAG-Local Agency) Agreement to Jennifer Krebs by April 4, 2014. Part of the LPS agreements will address potential overages.
- (b) Goal is to sign and complete LPS agreements by the first week of July, 2014

ii. *Round 3*

In Round 3, there's \$73M remaining that's available for the Bay Area, of which about 40% is earmarked for drought relief by the Governor's bill. BACWA submitted a nutrient proposal and a recycled water proposal under the Regional Concept. It's unclear right now how the Bay Area will allocate Regional versus Subregional projects. It's possible that not a lot of funds will be left for subregional projects. Other functional areas have proposals to transfer water between agencies in response for a drought, rather than creating totally new supplies. Guidelines were expected from DWR for the drought relief projects on 4/1. The remainder of the funds, after the drought relief portion, will probably be available next year. There is no clear guidance for strategy on proposals, since no one knows what the DWR's rules are yet. The subregional project submittals are still due 4/30. Vince reported that Bruce Wolfe (EO of Region 2) expects the Governor's office to contact him about shovel-ready recycled water projects. Cheryl points out that which projects get identified will depend on how they define shovel-ready. Cheryl expects to scale back the recycled water proposal based on the eventual DWR guidelines. Based on current information and direction from the CC, those projects that want to be considered for subregional project funds need to submit the required information by 4/30, even if they are part of the regional proposal.

Once the DWR comes out with the guidelines, the Recycled Water Committee could come up with screening criteria to help pare down projects, and the group could bring these criteria to the Coordination Committee. One criteria could be what is the minimum grant funding a project could receive and still proceed. There may also be a minimum request of funds for a project to make it worth administering. There was discussion of whether the proposal would be more compelling if there was a more regional planning angle. For example, a Regional Truck Fill program for Caltrans would be a truly regional concept.

The Regional proposal has 14 projects with a total cost of \$74.4M that can start construction in 2014. Next month this group will develop recycled water project selection criteria which would then be applied to the list of projects in June. The North Bay may need to identify projects in the +/- \$5M range, which is more comparable to the other project on the list.

The CC's Project Section Committee meetings are open meetings. It was requested that the date and location of these meetings be posted on the IRWM website.

#### 4) Legislation/Regulations Updates - Rosenblum

a. Legislation

There is a WaterReuse Leg/Reg Committee call scheduled for this Friday. Cheryl will distribute call-in information. For further information about these bills, see [Leg/Reg meeting notes](#).

- i. *AB 2417 (Nazarian)* – CEQA exemption for up to 8 miles of recycled water pipeline  
There is opposition from the environmental community, which reduces its chance of passing.
- iii. *AB 2282 (Gatto)* – Building standards: recycled water infrastructure  
Requires dual plumbing buildings. This has been amended to include important issues to agencies. Local governments would not longer be required to create mandates – agencies now just need to look into it.
- iv. *AB 2071 (Levine)* – Recycled water use for pasture animals  
Ensure that recycled water be made available for stock. This has been referred to committee. There used to be a ban on recycled water for stock, and this bill seeks to correct that.

- v. [AB 2403](#) (*Rendon & Mullin*) – Prop 218 – Clarifies that recycled water is subject to Proposition 218 notifications in setting rates.
- vi. [AB 2636](#) (*Gatto & Skinner*) – CalConserve Water Use Efficiency Revolving Fund
- ii. Other updates
  - [AB1331](#) is the Water Bond. It is in the senate, but it may not pass as is. \$132 million earmarked for water reuse in Bay area. We're waiting for the governor's feedback, but he will probably wait to see where the drought is going before making a decision.
  - [AB1699](#) – [Ban on Microplastics](#) in Wastewater. These are a problem in cosmetics products. A number of agencies and [CASA](#) are in support of the bill.
  - [AB2243](#) – Public utilities can trump private water companies if they are owned by homeowners.
  - [AB2636](#) – Set up a Cal Conserve water efficiency revolving fund. This might get folded into the water bond. The bill is in appropriations
  - [SB1014](#) – [Pharmaceutical Takeback program](#). Would require pharmaceutical firms to fund these programs. This bill is being supported by [CASA](#) and BAPPG ([Support list](#)).
  - [Drinking water Reorganization Transition Plan](#) – the result of this reorganization is that it should be easier to get recycled water projects permitted. This is State Water board Chair Felicia Marcus' top priority for the next year. The head of the drinking water program will stay with the DPH and be head of the Food and Drug branch. The staff is looking forward to the transition; DPH had a lot of internal problems. The nitrate problem may not get addressed by the transition – it looks like recycled water will be an unintended beneficiary of the transition.
- Federal*
  - [SB2189](#) – Tax incentives for recycled water and conservation in industrial settings.

## 5) Partnership Updates – All

- a. *WRWC – Info on Recycled Water Survey*  
Bureau of Reclamation offering WaterSMART [grants](#) for the development of feasibility studies for water reclamation.
- b. *NBWRA*  
Waiting to hear whether they will receive WaterSMART construction funding. Working through second phase process.
- c. *Recycled Water Landscape Guide* – New draft won't be ready until July since the consultant is ill.

## 5) Announcements/Agency Updates – All

The Regional Water Board is adopting language on recycled water notification. For example, this is the language in Palo Alto's Tentative Order Fact Sheet:

*I.B. The Discharger must file a petition with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Water Rights, and receive approval for any change in the point of discharge, place of use, or purpose of use of treated wastewater that decreases the flow in any portion of a watercourse. The State Water Board retains the jurisdictional authority to enforce such requirements under Water Code section 1211.*

This is unnecessary level of effort for Bay Dischargers, and BACWA may request a streamlined process for Region 2. Lorien will forward materials to Cheryl on this. Cheryl will solicit feedback from the committee. This could create a regulatory barrier to the implementation of recycled water projects.

Santa Clara Valley CWEA will host a [meeting](#) with a Recycled water focus on May 15 at Stanford.

- 7) **Next Meeting** – May 7, 2014 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, 2nd Floor Small Training Room at EBMUD Headquarters