

ACTION CALENDAR

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES (AWWARF PROJECT PARTICIPATION
WATER QUALITY IMPLICATIONS OF LARGE SCALE APPLICATION OF
SEAWATER DESALINATION)

SUMMARY:

The District is submitting a proposal to AWWARF to fund a Tailored Collaboration (TC) Project that would investigate water quality implications related to seawater desalination on August 1, 2001. The District would be considered by AWWARF as the sponsoring utility and its partners would be considered co-funding utilities. The project would address issues related to: source water quality, methods of membrane pretreatment, and introducing desalinated water into an existing potable distribution system. This research project will assist in the development of water quality and design information needed for desalination of seawater for drinking water purposes on a regional and worldwide basis.

Under AWWARF's TC program the maximum amount they can fund is \$200,000 with a one-to-one match (actual hard dollars) by the sponsoring utility and its partners. In-kind contributions may be considered for the overall project budget, but will not be matched by AWWARF. District staff has requested contributions towards the proposed project from several utilities. Written commitments for contributions have been received from: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (\$50,000), Tampa Bay Water (\$25,000), and Calleguas MWD (\$25,000). Written commitments are pending from Metropolitan Water District (MWD), and Municipal Water District of Orange County. In-kind contributions have been confirmed from: Long Beach Water Department (\$25,000), San Diego County Water Authority, Tampa Bay Water (\$25,000), MWD, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (\$106,000), and National Water Research Institute (NWRI) (\$70,000). The overall research project budget is estimated at about \$800,000 which includes hard dollar contributions from AWWARF and utilities and in-kind contributions by various entities.

The project's approach will consist of the following major tasks:

- Extensive literature review;
- Reviewing desalination case studies;
- Source water assessment for desalination applications;
- Water quality monitoring (source water and pilot plant operations);
- Developing a corrosion control model for the distributions system;
- Characterizing residuals generated during desalination;
- Identifying and characterizing taste and odor issues;
- Developing a database of water quality monitoring; and

- Prepare a final report

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By sponsoring a seawater desalination research project, the District would benefit greatly in identifying an additional water supply source for the region.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funds for this effort have been included in the fiscal year 2001-02 Research & Development Program budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on August 2, 2001 and was recommended for approval. This item was agendaized to the August 27, 2001 Board meeting for action.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Authorize the General Manager to contribute up to \$75,000 towards the implementation of the proposed AWWARF TC project.

EXHIBITS

None.

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