

WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**AUGUST 7, 2002 – Water Resources**
McDonald, Little**AUGUST 26, 2002 – Board Meeting**

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INFORMATION CALENDAR

CONVERSION OF LIME CLARIFICATION TO MICROFILTRATION, TITLE 22 EXPANSION,
AND 100% BARRIER PROJECT COORDINATION UPDATE

SUMMARY:

The Phase IV Plant expansion involves the following facilities:

- Additional 5 mgd of microfiltration/reverse osmosis (MF/RO) capacity;
- Conversion of existing 5 mgd Lime Clarification pretreatment to MF;
- Provide 12.5 mgd of UV treatment plus peroxide;
- Conversion or modification of the solids handling facilities and/or process; and
- Additional 10 mgd of Title 22 capacity.

Provided below are status reports for significant project activities and milestones.

Regulatory Compliance

In July, the District received a draft conditional concept approval letter (Exhibit A) from the Department of Health Services (DHS). Staff will meet with DHS on August 27 in Sacramento to discuss their specific comments to the March 2002 Engineering Report. The most significant issue DHS has identified is the potential liability associated with future contamination of down gradient supply wells. An example would be identifying a new contaminant, unknown at the present time, and is linked to the Barrier Project that impacts the use of supply well(s). One condition is DHS will require West Basin to identify an assurance mechanism to safeguard against this liability. Staff is in the process of developing alternatives that will be brought to the Board for its consideration.

Environmental Compliance

This work is scheduled for completion by September 2002.

Phase IV Expansion Design Engineering Services

CDM is proceeding forward on schedule with the Project Feasibility Study. Staff and CDM continue to meet on a weekly basis to discuss technical issues related to plant expansion alternatives. A final project report will be completed in late August and will summarize all project component recommendations. Information contained in the final report will be the basis of the Preliminary Design Report, which will be used for solicitation of design-build services.

Phase IV Expansion – RO Pretreatment Pilot Testing

Pilot testing of four (4) membrane system vendors is proceeding forward as scheduled. Each vendor's proposed system is in the first phase of testing, which will identify key operating parameters for subsequent testing during later phases. Testing of the vendor membrane systems serve to determine performance and ability to meet the Phase IV Project requirements and to pre-qualify for design-build construction.

Phase IV UV Pilot Testing

A key aspect of the Phase IV Expansion involves the addition of Ultraviolet (UV) irradiation for disinfection and NDMA destruction purposes. UV facilities are planned to be installed following MF/RO treatment for the Barrier Water Treatment Process.

As part of the pre-design process, a UV Pilot Testing Program has been established to develop performance specifications required for competitive bidding during the design-build process. Pilot testing will provide data to be used as a basis for selection of qualified UV vendor equipment through life cycle cost analysis. Life cycle cost analyses will consider both UV capital and O&M costs, including power consumption.

In order to qualify to bid on the UV portion of the design build project, staff has determined that all interested UV vendors must be required to either provide specific pilot test data directly applicable to MF/RO treated wastewater quality and testing conditions, or perform pilot testing at the WBWRP. This requirement will allow those existing UV vendors with past similar piloting or full-scale experience to present data, which may be used as a substitute to actual pilot testing at the WBWRP. Data submitted will need to be accepted by District staff prior to approval for the bidding process. If data is unacceptable, the UV vendor would still be allowed to participate in the Pilot Testing Program. Pilot testing will be conducted between early August and late September.

Public Relations

Staff intends to schedule internal planning sessions with Lang, Pan, Chan and the entire public relations team. The primary focus will be the development of message points and stakeholder outreach. The development of the ocean-water desalination message points will serve as a foundation for developing the message for the 100% Barrier Project. In addition, a framework for the stakeholder outreach was developed during the Phase I public relations strategy developed by Katz & Associates and their expertise will be vital in the Barrier phase of the Project. At this stage, the most critical outreach item is concurrence for the 100% Barrier project by WRD. Staff will be discussing this, and WRD's project alternatives, at both the August Water Association meetings and, hosting a purveyor's workshop on August 22.

WBMWD and WRD Joint Board Workshop

At the July 1, 2002 Special Joint Board workshop between WRD and West Basin MWD, the WRD Board agreed to respond by September 30, 2002 regarding contract negotiations and support for the 100% Barrier Project. West Basin General manager made a presentation on both a WRD purchase order agreement for MWD's firm supply and also presented the 100% Barrier project. WRD General Manager followed by presenting WRD's alternative approach to the 100% Barrier Project. Since then, staff has consulted with WRD and the groundwater producers to identify the project details of WRD's alternative approach to the 100% Barrier Project. The intent is to compare projects on an "apples-to-apples" basis.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

The FY 2002-03 budget program will include designated funds to achieve the aforementioned project activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

The Board has authorized staff to engage consulting services for developing the documents to comply with the CEQA and NEPA requirements.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on August 7, 2002 and agendaized to the August 26, 2002 Board meeting as information.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – Draft Conditional Concept Approval Letter