

**WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**DECEMBER 8, 2004 - Water Resources**  
Little, Kwan  
**DECEMBER 20, 2004 - Board Meeting**  
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Approved by: Richard Nagel

INFORMATION CALENDAR

SEAWATER BARRIER WATER CONSERVATION PROJECT UPDATE

SUMMARY:

Staff has been working with the City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation Districts (Bureau) and the Department of Health Services (DHS) to finalize the Facts and Finding (FOF). The FOF must be completed by DHS and then forwarded to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) for permit issuance. Currently, the RWQCB is taking over a year to adopt permits.

The outstanding issue has been source control. West Basin has been working with the Bureau on this issue since last March. The Bureau is concerned about any costs associated with the DHS' requirements for an "expanded" source control program. DHS feels that the Bureau's source control program, which is governed by NPDES requirements for wastewater discharges is correctly intended for environmental discharge and does not adequately protect drinking water quality. The Bureau assumes the existing source control program could assist West Basin with its permit requirements and rightfully would like to recover some of the costs. West Basin has emphasized to the Bureau the critical path of resolution needed to not delay the Barrier Project permitting process any further.

On November 17, staff met with the Bureau to discuss and finalize language for DHS. That language is in final revisions with DHS and should proceed forward this month in order to cue up in the permit process and not hold up the Project. Extensive work will need to be done with West Basin management, the Bureau, and DHS to complete the following tasks:

- Write a Source Control Implementation Program that has already been outlined by staff and will be developed by McGuire Environmental under an existing contract to compile a plan that encompasses DHS' requirements;
- A Memorandum of Understanding between West Basin and the Bureau clarifying responsibilities in the DHS required supplemental source control plan as well as cost issues;
- An Operations Plan required per the Barrier Expansion permit that will be developed by SPI to define mandatory membrane maintenance and replacement protocol; and
- A Ground Water Tracer Monitoring and Analysis Program will need to be developed by a third party to track movement of the increased Barrier water per DHS requirements.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

A revised Water Discharge Requirement permit will be required to implement the expanded Barrier operations.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on December 8, 2004 and agendaized to the December 20, 2004 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:

This item is for information only.

EXHIBITS:

None.

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