

WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

SEPTEMBER 12, 2005- Water Resources
Little, Baker

SEPTEMBER 26, 2005 - Board Meeting

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INFORMATION CALENDAR

OCEAN-WATER DESALINATION UPDATESUMMARY:**Metropolitan Water District (MWD) - Seawater Desalination Program**

MWD is finalizing the Seawater Desalination Program Agreements with the five member agencies pursuing ocean-water desalination projects. This program was developed as part of the MWD's Integrated Resources Plan to establish up to 150,000 acre-feet per year of alternative water supplies to interested agencies. The agreements provide for a \$250 per acre-foot incentive for twenty-five years for ocean-water desalination facilities that produce potable drinking water for local needs. West Basin's agreement is for 20,000 acre-feet per year. The Co-General Managers and District Council have executed this agreement and returned it to MWD for finalization.

West Basin is continuing to work with MWD in the development of MWD's long-term role in the development of ocean-water desalination. MWD has recently focused on establishing a more central role in the development of ocean-water desalination supplies. Metropolitan has proposed three options that range in varying degrees of involvement. These options include:

- 1) Maintain the incentive contracts established under the Integrated Resources Plan and continue to support member agencies in the permitting and regulatory development of local ocean-water desalination projects;
- 2) Maintain the incentive contracts and solicit a "Request for Proposals" inviting competitive bids to design and construct a regional facility on behalf of MWD ;
- 3) Maintain the incentive contracts and MWD would develop their own regional ocean-water desalination facility in a traditional capital improvement program approach.

The five ocean-water desalination member agencies have met with MWD to discuss the benefits and disadvantages of each of these options. The member agencies feel that the most cost-effective and efficient long-term role of MWD is the first option, where MWD would support the development of the local ocean-water desalination facilities. Staff will be providing updates to the Board as these discussions materialize at the committee level and recommendations on the long-term goals become available.

U.S. Desalination Coalition

The U.S. Desalination Coalition will be holding its next meeting in Washington, D.C. in October. This meeting has been scheduled in Washington, D.C. at the suggestion of the supporting Congressional sponsors to allow the potential for additional lobbying on the proposed energy legislation. The meeting will commence with a reception on Wednesday, October 5, 2005. The Board meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 6, 2005.

The Board meeting will be followed by a lunch and briefing on Capitol Hill for Congressional staffers. Meetings with Congressional offices will be held that same afternoon.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power – Board of Commissioner Appointments

Calling for a commitment to a cleaner and greener Los Angeles, Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa announced his appointees to the City's Board of Water and Power Commission. The five new members of the commission include:

- Mary D. Nichols, an experienced and nationally recognized environmental leader, former Clinton Administration appointee and current Director of the UCLA Institute of the Environment;
- David Nahai, a member of the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California League of Conservation Voters and longtime environmental advocate;
- Dr. William Burke, Chair of the South Coast Air Quality Management District;
- Nick Patsouras, an experienced businessman, "visionary leader" and public servant; and
- Edith Ramirez, a highly successful Los Angeles attorney.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

None.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on September 12, 2005 and was agendaized to the September 26, 2005 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:

This item is for information only.

EXHIBITS:

None.