

WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

JANUARY 17, 2008 – Water Resources

Smith (Chair), Little

JANUARY 28, 2008 – Board Meeting

Prepared by: Harvey De La Torre

Submitted by: Paul E. Shoenberger

Approved by: Richard Nagel

INFORMATION CALENDAR

WEST BASIN DROUGHT ALLOCATION PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESSSUMMARY:

Dry conditions in 2007 combined with Judge Wanger's recent decision on operations of the Delta have placed major constraints on Southern California's water supplies. As a response to these challenges, MWD and its member agencies have been working for the past couple of months on a MWD Drought Allocation Plan to distribute water supplies under a series of reduction stages.

This past November, MWD and the member agencies presented a draft allocation formula to the MWD Board that reflected the WSDM principles and distributed imported water in a balanced manner for all member agencies. The formula considered the impacts at the retail level, accounted for, and addressed the issues of growth, local investment, changes in supplies, and demanding hardening aspects of recycled water and conservation. It is expected that the MWD Board will act on this formula and the implementation process next month. The reason for this accelerated process is that if supply conditions worsen or demand exceed available supplies, MWD may be called upon to implement their allocation plan as soon as May 2008.

In order to prepare for such an allocation of imported water by MWD, West Basin must develop its own drought allocation plan among its customer agencies. Therefore, staff recommends proceeding with a Drought Allocation formula and implementation plan as follows:

- February: Develop a draft supply allocation formula and present it to the member agencies for review and comment; and hold a Customer Agency Workshop on draft formula and implementation plan;
- March: Present the findings to the Board in an information report for review and comment; and
- April: Seek Board adoption on West Basin MWD's Allocation Formula and Implementation Plan.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

A financial impact report on West Basin's Drought Allocation Plan will be conducted over the next couple months in order to provide the Board with a comprehensive analysis on the potential reduction of sales and other potential expenses if such an allocation plan is called upon.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on January 17, 2008 and agendized to the January 28, 2008 Board Meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.

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