



**WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**  
17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Suite 210  
Carson, CA 90746

**AGENDA NO. 28**

**MARCH 12, 2009 – Water Resources**

Smith (Chair), Little

**MARCH 23, 2009 – Board Meeting**

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Approved by: Rich Nagel

## INFORMATION CALENDAR

### ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION (CEQA/NEPA) CONTRACT SERVICES

#### SUMMARY:

West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is pursuing a number of projects on a short timeline to take advantage of federal stimulus package funding for new water projects. These projects will be administered through the State Water Resources Board. Projects selected are required to create "new water" sources and must be "shovel-ready." Any shovel-ready project must also comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements. Typical CEQA documents often include concise Categorical Exemptions but can also include the necessity for Negative Declarations or even lengthy Environmental Impact Reports (EIR). Staff is equipped to prepare and file any Categorical Exemptions but must obtain outside services for Negative Declarations, Mitigation Monitoring Programs and EIR's. Therefore, in order to expedite the projects proposed under the stimulus package funding, staff must be prepared to initiate environmental documentation immediately.

Staff is preparing a "Request for Qualifications" (RFQ) for on-call rapid CEQA documentation services for projects funded as part of the California Stimulus Package. This contract will allow rapid turnaround of the CEQA requirements for these projects. A budget of \$200,000 from the Capital Improvement Budget is being allocated for this effort.

#### STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Goal 7, Infrastructure – Manage infrastructure to ensure reliability, manage risk, and maximize the useful life of facilities.

#### COMMITMENT STATEMENT:

Environmental Stewardship – West Basin is committed to sustainable and environmentally friendly business practices.

#### FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funds are included in Fiscal Year (FY) 2008-09 Capital Improvement Budget and will be included in FY 2009-10 Capital Improvement Budget.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Required for all new projects.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resource Committee on March 12, 2009 and agendaized to the March 23, 2009 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.