



WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
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AGENDA NO. 30

AUGUST 13, 2010 – Water Resources
Little (Chair), Gray
AUGUST 23, 2010 – Board Meeting
Prepared by: Fernando Paludi
Submitted by: Fernando Paludi
Approved by: Rich Nagel

ACTION CALENDAR

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT'S 2010 INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN UPDATE

SUMMARY:

Over the past 18 months, West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) has actively participated in the process of updating Metropolitan Water District's (MWD) Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) to meet a new set of challenges and uncertainties facing our future water supply reliability. The IRP is important to West Basin because it will guide MWD's long-term policies and investments into conservation and supply development, which in turn affect the timing and affordability of West Basin's reliability planning.

Staff has reviewed the 2010 IRP Update draft report and finds that it represents a comprehensive and responsible approach to meeting future demands in Southern California in the face of many uncertainties, and is consistent with West Basin's needs and goals. In particular, the 2010 IRP:

- Promotes a diversified range of water supply options (imported, conservation, recycled, desalination, stormwater, and greywater) and infrastructure investments;
- Enhances MWD's role as the region's backstop of reliability, per the Laguna Declaration, by providing the flexibility for more direct involvement in local supply development, including partnerships with other agencies;
- Achieves regional reliability through the Core Resources Strategy if fully implemented and all assumptions are correct;
- Recognizes that the Core Resources Strategy carries significant risk (i.e. Delta fix, long-term drought) and mitigates risk by recommending a reasonable level (10%) of "Supply Buffer" including a regional 20x2020 water use efficiency target and additional local supply development; and
- Uses an adaptive management approach that will seek to balance risk of supply shortage against risk of unnecessary investments.

In terms of West Basin's Water Reliability 2020 Program goals, the 2010 IRP Update provides adequate resource targets and policy flexibility to support our plans to double conservation and recycled water production, and evaluate a partnership with MWD for a full-scale ocean-water desalination facility that will be more cost-effective and serve the region.

Staff recommends that the Board indicate its formal support for the 2010 IRP Update by sending a support letter to MWD prior to the next scheduled MWD Board Workshop on September 17.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Goal 1: Water Reliability – West Basin is committed to innovative planning and investments to provide water supply reliability and drought protection.

Goal 5: Environmental Stewardship – West Basin is committed to sustainable and environmentally-friendly business practices.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Not applicable.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on August 13, 2010 and recommended for approval at the August 23, 2010 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board authorizes the President to sign a letter supporting MWD's 2010 Integrated Resources Plan Update.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – Draft Letter of Support

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