

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Water Advisory Committee August 25, 2010  
From: Chris DeGabriele, Chair, Technical Advisory Committee  
Subject: Water Contractor Comments on May 2010 Draft SCWA Water Supply Strategy Action Plan

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118 individual comments were submitted by the eight water contractors on the subject SCWA Water Supply Strategy Action Plan. SCWA has compiled the comments, sorted by Strategy, on the attached spreadsheet and intends to address each comment individually.

The WAC has requested to review the comments at its September 13 meeting so that the WAC Chair and/or Vice-Chair can present comments to the SCWA Board of Directors at the September 21, 2010 meeting when SCWA will present an update on the Water Supply Strategy Action Plan.

To facilitate the WAC's review, the TAC has assigned each comment with a classification. On the spreadsheet, under the **Notes/Comments** column, each comment has been classified as either: **Substantive, Format/Placement** or **Wording/Clarity**. Additionally, the TAC has identified **Similar Comments** and whether the comment follows a **Common Theme**.

**Common Themes** from the Water Contractor comments are in two main areas:

1. **Provide Periodic Updates.** The water contractors appreciate the invitation of the SCWA Board, General Manager and staff to provide input and participate in this planning effort. This opportunity is valued and the Water Contractors desire to continue this collaborative planning effort with the Agency in the future, requesting periodic updates to the Water Supply Strategy Action Plan and progress on specific actions contained therein.
2. **Costs.** The costs of these actions, including environmental costs, should be disclosed clearly and communicated to the water contractors to determine the benefits of implementation, funding options and water rate implications. The long-term financial analysis to determine both cost effectiveness of proposed projects, along with the rate impacts associated with said costs, should be provided to the contractors on a periodic basis.

In addition to the Common Themes noted above, the TAC recommends that the WAC

consider conveying to the SCWA Board the following five areas where **Similar Comments** were made by the Water Contractors, indicating general agreement:

3. It is recommended to identify and secure outside funding for biological opinion related work, and ensure the US Army Corps of Engineers contribute their share of the biological opinion costs. It's suggested that SCWA coordinate support from the Water Contractors by identifying when and how assistance can be offered including providing template letters, resolutions, and contact information for the appropriate officials. Additionally, it's recommended that the SCWA pursue grants and any other outside funding to defray cost of the projects. The water contractors are ready to assist in any way possible.
4. It is recommended that milestones be set to evaluate the Dry Creek habitat enhancement effectiveness, and should the evaluations indicate a success rate below those expectations, steps be taken to ensure the Dry Creek pipeline alternative can be implemented in a timely manner. The Water Contractors request to be kept abreast of the progress with both habitat enhancement and Dry Creek pipeline analysis, costs and scheduling.
5. Development of local supply, especially ground water banking, is of great interest to many water contractors, along with evaluation of a base demand system and accompanying water rate configuration.
6. Water Supply Strategy #5, "Develop Water-Smart Developments Standards," includes only one action; and it is recommended that this strategy be consolidated into Strategy #9, "Implement Integrated Water Management."
7. It is recommended that replacement of the rubber dam be added to the list of Hazard Mitigation/Liability projects and included in the capital project and financial planning.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

WAC authorize the WAC Chair and/or Vice-Chair to present the above comments to the Agency Board at the September 21, 2010 Board of Directors meeting.