

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
4040 PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD, LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90712  
4:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2009**

**AGENDA**

EACH ITEM ON THE AGENDA, NO MATTER HOW DESCRIBED, SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE ANY APPROPRIATE MOTION, WHETHER TO ADOPT A MINUTE MOTION, RESOLUTION, PAYMNET OF ANY BILL, APPROVAL OF ANY MATTER OR ACTION, OR ANY OTHER ACTION. ITEMS LISTED AS "FOR INFORMATION" MAY ALSO BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY "ACTION" TAKEN BY THE BOARD OR A COMMITTEE AT THE SAME MEETING.

- 1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 3. UPDATE ON THE 2009 ENGINEERING SURVEY AND REPORT AND GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For information.
- 4. RECEIVE AND FILE REGIONAL GROUNDWATER MONITORING REPORT - WATER YEAR 2007/2008**  
*Staff Recommendation:* Receive and file the 2007-2008 Regional Groundwater Monitoring Report.
- 5. WATER INDEPENDENCE NOW (WIN) UPDATE**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For information.
- 6. DIRECTORS REPORTS, INQUIRIES, REVIEW OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF**
- 7. ADJOURNMENT**

Posted by Abigail C. Andom, Deputy Secretary, March 30, 2009.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if special assistance is needed to participate in the Board meeting, please contact Deputy Secretary Abigail Andom at (562) 921-5521 for assistance to enable the District to make reasonable accommodations.

All public records relating to an agenda item on this agenda are available for public inspection at the time the record is distributed to all, or a majority of all, members of the Board. Such records shall be available at the District office located at 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712.

Agendas and minutes are available at the District's website, [www.wrd.org](http://www.wrd.org).



## MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 3

<i>Prepared by:</i>	Ted Johnson
<i>Reviewed by:</i>	Robb Whitaker
<i>Approved by:</i>	Robb Whitaker

**DATE:** APRIL 1, 2009

**TO:** WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**FROM:** ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** UPDATE ON THE 2009 ENGINEERING SURVEY AND REPORT AND GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS

---

### SUMMARY

On March 20, 2009, the Board of Directors received and filed the 2009 Engineering Survey and Report (ESR) as required by the Water Code which describes the past, present, and expected future conditions of the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins. The Board also adopted Resolution 09-848 declaring that funds will be raised to purchase replenishment water and for projects and programs in the ensuing year.

On April 3, 2009, the Public Hearing on the 2009/2010 proposed budget and replenishment assessment (RA) will be opened to present any updated information to the ESR, and to receive public testimony, if any, in support of or in opposition to the proposed RA. The public hearing will likely be continued to subsequent meetings and closed prior to the Board's adoption of the RA, currently scheduled for May 1, 2009.

Staff will update the Committee on any new information made available after publishing the ESR and will report on conditions of the basins. One such update will be on the current pricing of imported water, which has changed since presenting the ESR. Staff will also continue to work with the Committee on alternative considerations for water purchase timing and strategies for when to purchase imported water and at what price.

### FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.



## MEMORANDUM

### ITEM NO. 4

<i>Prepared by:</i>	Tony Kirk
<i>Reviewed by:</i>	Ted Johnson
<i>Approved by:</i>	Robb Whitaker

**DATE:** APRIL 1, 2009

**TO:** WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

**FROM:** ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** RECEIVE AND FILE REGIONAL GROUNDWATER MONITORING REPORT – WATER YEAR 2007- 2008

---

### SUMMARY

WRD Staff is in the final stages of preparation of the 2007/2008 Regional Groundwater Monitoring Report, which describes the groundwater levels, groundwater quality and replenishment water quality for the Central and West Coast Basins (CWCB) for the previous water year. Staff will present findings from the report at the Committee meeting.

The purpose of the Regional Groundwater Monitoring Program is to perform the basic District function of tracking groundwater levels and groundwater quality. This information is utilized to determine the health of the groundwater basins and to assist in development of concepts to optimize the use of our local groundwater resource. The major components of the staff-implemented program include the following:

- Establish a network of monitoring wells throughout the District.
- Collect water levels from these wells at regular (daily) intervals using automated data loggers.
- Collect water quality samples from these wells twice per year using the Districts' sampling vehicles.
- Collect water quality data for the different types of replenishment waters recharging the CWCB.
- Analyze the water level and water quality data to establish first hand knowledge of current basin conditions.
- Incorporate the information into WRD's Geographic Information System (GIS) database that can be accessed by Staff, Stakeholders, and the public.
- Prepare Annual Reports on the Program findings.

### Significant Findings

This year's groundwater production increased by 3.8% from the previous year, from 235,770 acre-feet (AF) to 244,732 AF. This level of groundwater production is below the previous five year average production of 236,718 AFY.

Water conservation (capture and recharge of water) at the Montebello Forebay Spreading Grounds totaled 95,795 AF including 54,518 AF of local water, 1,510 AF of imported water, and 39,767 AF of recycled water. The imported water was put in by Central Basin MWD.

At the seawater barriers, 28,045 AF of water were injected, including 12,880 AF of imported water and 15,165 AF of recycled water.

Groundwater levels decreased over most of the CB during the past Water Year due primarily to limited imported water for recharge plus the increase in pumping previously noted. Groundwater levels in the WCB were relatively stable with very small localized decreases.

In general, groundwater in the main producing aquifers of the basins is of very good quality and is suitable for use now and in the future. Localized areas of marginal to poor water quality exist, primarily on the basin margins and in the shallower and deeper aquifers impacted by seawater intrusion.

Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), primarily perchloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE), are present in localized areas of the Central Basin and have impacted some production wells which are addressed through the WRD Safe Drinking Water Program.

One new nested monitoring well was constructed by WRD in cooperation with the United States Geological Survey. The well was located in the City of Los Angeles along the northern District boundary near the Los Angeles River channel. Three additional wells are planned in the coming months including one in Bell and two in Torrance.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None at this time.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file the 2007-2008 Regional Groundwater Monitoring Report.



## MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 5

*Prepared by:* Bob Siemak

*Reviewed by:* Robb Whitaker

*Approved by:* Robb Whitaker

**DATE:** APRIL 1, 2009  
**TO:** WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
**FROM:** ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER  
**SUBJECT:** WATER INDEPENDENCE NOW (WIN) UPDATE

---

### SUMMARY

Groundwater provides 40% of the overall water supply during normal years for the Los Angeles Coastal Basins, which includes over 4 million residents in 43 cities. Because groundwater extractions exceed natural replenishment, the basins require artificial replenishment. WRD manages these basins, including replenishment. WRD uses various sources of water for artificial replenishment including stormwater; treated wastewater, a locally available supply; and expensive imported water from the environmentally sensitive Sacramento and Colorado Rivers.

WRD has identified a suite of projects which is called "Water Independence Now" (WIN) that will allow south Los Angeles County to be independent of having to purchase imported water. WIN eliminates our demand for imported water to replenish our groundwater basins and provides for a locally sustainable groundwater supply.

Presented below is an update of the major programs that are part of WIN:

1. Groundwater Reliability Improvement Program, Phase I (GRIP)
  - a. Objective- replace untreated imported replenishment water in the Montebello Forebay with advanced treated wastewater (Phase I: 9,000 AFY, Phase II: 12,000 AFY); WRD is in a partnership with the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District and Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts) to develop this program.
  - b. Status and Activities
    - i. Briefing of new directors at Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD)
      1. USGVMWD briefed their Board on GRIP at its regularly scheduled Board Meeting on March 17.
      2. The purpose of the briefing was to present the project to the two newly elected Board members and provide a status report. Board voted 3-1 to endorse the project.
    - ii. Concept Development Report

1. Report is being reviewed and anticipated date for issuing the final draft is mid-April 2009.
- iii. Cost Estimate
1. A cost estimate for the facilities has been drafted and is being reviewed by all parties. Although there is no official cost estimate for GRIP, the conceptual development plan is providing costs for an advanced treatment option located in the Montebello Forebay.
- iv. Project Governance Agreement
1. WRD is the lead agency for the development of a new agreement between the parties to move beyond the conceptual study phase.
  2. WRD staff is working with our attorney to prepare a draft of an agreement framework, which will be available for discussion with the partnership within the two weeks.
  3. We will be proposing a joint powers agreement, which provides us with more flexibility than forming a joint powers authority
- v. Site Acquisition
1. MWH reported that as of last week there had been a major development in negotiations with the LADWP to obtain a lease or purchase of the property for the project. Updates at the last several monthly GRIP team meetings indicated that the LADWP was receptive to arranging an agreement to grant the project access to their property located adjacent to San Jose Creek Water Reclamation Plant. Following a meeting held last week there has been a significant reversal of position by LADWP. It appears they now want to retain control of the property in anticipation of upcoming maintenance or replacement of the towers located on the site.
  2. MWH began looking into alternative sites for the facility. They recommended that the conceptual design be amended to include this alternative site analysis, which will ultimately be required as part of environmental documentation for the project.
  3. Negotiations with the USACE regarding their portion of the proposed site are proceeding smoothly and they are supportive of the project.
  4. The Sanitation Districts are re-evaluating their future expansion plans to see if any or all of the GRIP Project can be constructed on their site at the San Jose Creek Water Reclamation Plant, which is the supply for the first phase of GRIP.
- vi. Public Outreach Program
1. The parties have agreed that an RFP for public outreach will be deferred until the new project agreement is in place and there is more certainty regarding the site.
  2. Work to date on public outreach has included issuance of a request for qualifications (RFQ) to interested firms. USGVMWD

administered the RFQ process. Eight teams submitted Statements of Qualification and the partnership is evaluating them.

vii. Funding

1. WRD is pursuing funding via the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and participation in the Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP) process.

viii. GRIP Partnership Meetings

1. The Partnership is meeting on a regular basis and the next regularly scheduled meeting is April 14.
2. The Water Resources Committee has a standing GRIP update agenda item (next meeting is April 1). An Ad Hoc committee formed for GRIP will start meeting regularly starting in April.

2. West Coast Barrier Recycled Water

- a. Objective – Replace imported water needs at the Barrier by using 100% recycled water.

b. Status and Activities

- i. WRD and WBMWD are finalizing negotiation of a new water purchase agreement that would allow 100% use of reclaimed water for the barrier. Currently, we buy 75% reclaimed and 25% imported water.
- ii. New agreement will actually be an amendment to the current agreement and calls for the following:
  1. WRD purchases the first 4,500 AFY at a rate not to exceed 95% of the WBMWD Tier 1 rate
  2. WRD purchases the rest of the barrier water (up to an additional 12,500 AFY) at the current rate plus an additional \$20/yr for the next two years. Current rate is \$458/AF which will increase to \$478/AF in July 2008.
- iii. Amendment to water purchase agreement will be presented to the Joint WRD/WBMWD Board meeting for approval on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

3. Alamitos Barrier Recycled Water

- a. Objective – increase use of reclaimed water for injection from the current 50% to 100% by expansion of the Leo J. Vander Lans Water Treatment Facility

b. Status and Activities

- i. Efficiency Study completed by Trussell Technologies that diagnosed and remedied the membrane fouling issue at Vander Lans.
- ii. New operating contract with Long Beach Water is being negotiated which converts the present contract from a complex Lease/Water Purchase Agreement to a simpler Operational Services Agreement.
- iii. The Sanitation Districts made modifications to their Long Beach Water Reclamation Facility to provide for additional tertiary effluent production.

WRD is in discussion with LBWD on securing additional supply to expand Vander Lans.

- iv. A work plan has been prepared for expansion of Vander Lans so that once additional supply is obtained from LBWD, WRD can proceed expeditiously with environmental and technical work on expansion.
- v. WRD is pursuing an opportunity to receive Recovery Act funding for the Leo J. Vander Lans plant expansion. These funds are available through Reclamation for previously-authorized Title XVI water recycling program projects.

#### 4. Dominguez Gap Barrier

- a. Objective – increase use of reclaimed water for injection from the current 50% to 100% by working with LADWP to increase reclaimed water production at the Terminal Island Treatment Plant (TITP)
- b. Status and Activities
  - i. LADWP, under mandate by the Mayor, is moving forward with a Reclaimed Water Master Plan that will be completed in 18 months. The objective of the Master Plan (for the Harbor area) is to maximize the use of reclaimed water for TITP.
  - ii. WRD is working with LADWP on this part of the Master Plan so that we can secure the additional reclaimed water for the Dominguez Gap Barrier.

#### 5. Whittier Narrows Conservation Pool

- a. Objective – increase local storm water capture behind the Whittier Narrows Dam by 1,100 AFY for conservation in the spreading grounds.
- b. Status and Activities
  - i. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) has recently completed its dam safety work at Whittier Narrows and is now able to proceed with a Deviation Report that would temporarily increase the conservation pool by 1,100 AF.
  - ii. WRD is working with the COE to start on the Deviation Report this year.
  - iii. WRD is pursuing funding via appropriations requests and participation in the IRWMP process.

#### 6. Spreading Grounds Interconnection Pipeline

- a. Objective – provide a means of maximizing storm water capture by physically connecting the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Spreading Basins.
- b. Status and Activities
  - i. Plans and Specification are complete and out to bid; LACDPW is lead agency
  - ii. Construction scheduled for completion in early 2010

#### 7. Other Potential Projects

- a. Staff will provide an overview of additional projects or programs.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Funding for the WIN program is included in the District's draft FY2009/10 Budget.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

For information.