

**MEETING OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
4040 PARAMOUNT BLVD., LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA
12:00 P.M., MONDAY, JULY 19, 2010**

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, PAYMENT OF ANY BILL, APPROVAL OF ANY MATTER OR ACTION, OR ANY OTHER ACTION. ITEMS LISTED AS "FOR INFORMATION" MAY ALSO BE THE SUBJECT OF AN "ACTION" TAKEN BY THE BOARD OR A COMMITTEE AT THE SAME MEETING.

- 1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 3. LEGISLATIVE REPORT**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- 4. S. 1462 (BINGAMAN) – AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2009**
Staff Recommendation: "Support and amend" position, with amendments to broaden the eligibility provision of the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility and the Energy-Water Clean Technology Grant Program to include public agencies such as WRD.
- 5. FISCAL YEAR 2010-11 BUDGET REVIEW**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- 6. WRD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- 7. DEPARTMENT REPORT**
- 8. DIRECTORS' REPORTS, INQUIRIES, AND FOLLOW UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

Posted by Abigail C. Andom, Deputy Secretary, July 16, 2010.

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.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 3

Prepared by: Adeline Yoong

Reviewed by: Elsa Lopez

Approved by: Robb Whitaker

DATE: JULY 19, 2010
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUMMARY

Legislative Calendar

State Legislature

August 2	Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess
August 19	Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report bills to the Floor
August 16-31	Floor session only
August 20	Last day to amend on the Floor
August 31	Last day for any bill to be passed Final Recess begins on adjournment

Congress

Aug 9-Sept 10	District Work Period
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Legislative Report

Verbal updates will be provided on state and federal matters.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 4

Prepared by: Adeline Yoong

Reviewed by: Elsa Lopez

Approved by: Robb Whitaker

DATE: JULY 19, 2010

TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: S. 1462 (BINGAMAN) – AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2009

LEGISLATIVE BILL ANALYSIS

- Bill Summary and Status

S. 1462, American Clean Energy Leadership Act of 2009, is one of several versions of an energy-climate change bill. Introduced on July 16, 2009, by House Energy and Natural Resources Chair Jeff Bingaman, the 531-page measure establishes numerous provisions including the creation of (1) the Clean Energy Investment Fund, a revolving fund to develop clean energy technology; (2) the Clean Energy Deployment Administration in the Department of Energy (DOE) to provide financial support for deploying clean energy technologies; (3) the National Commission on Nuclear Waste to study issues concerning waste management, disposal, storage, and chemical reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste; (4) a Working Group on Energy Markets; and (5) a standard that requires utilities to obtain an increasing percentage of their base quantity of electricity that they sell to consumers from renewable energy or energy efficiency (3% in 2011-2013, 6% in 2014-2016, 9% in 2017-2018, 12% in 2019-2020, and 15% in 2021-2039).

It requires the Department of Energy to: (1) establish a renewable energy credit trading program and an energy efficiency credit trading program; (2) conduct various studies and programs concerning clean energy, water use and energy savings, and energy efficiency in vehicles; (3) support manufacturers' use of clean energy and energy efficiency measures, including implementing the State Partnership Industrial Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Program and a sustainable manufacturing initiative; (4) implement a program to demonstrate the commercial application of integrated systems for the capture, injection, monitoring, and storage of carbon dioxide from industrial sources; (5) support programs to expand the domestic production of low-Btu gas and helium resources; (6) conduct a marine-based energy device verification program; (7) implement a grant program to develop and evaluate marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy; and (8) establish a task force to report on climate change in China and India.

The measure also sets forth provisions to: (1) establish energy efficiency standards for lights, appliances, and buildings and revise the Energy Star program; (2) prioritize and provide assistance for renewable energy development on brownfield sites; (3) authorize and extend appropriations for specified energy programs; (4) provide for the development of energy education and workforce training; and (5) establish requirements for the Energy Information Administration, including creating a Financial Market Analysis Office.

S. 1462 requires the Secretary of the Interior to: (1) develop a facility to operate the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility; (2) designate Bureau of Land Management (BLM) field offices in specified states to serve as Renewable Energy Permit Coordination Offices; (3) prepare a seismic inventory of oil and natural gas and a summary of such information for waters in the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS); (4) establish a wind and solar leasing program; (5) conduct assessments of helium gas and potash; (6) establish a regional joint OCS lease and permit processing office for Alaska; and (7) allow oil and gas leasing in specified areas of the Gulf of Mexico that are beyond 45 statute miles (current law limits such activity to areas beyond 125 miles) off the coastline of Florida.

The bill is currently in the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

- Impact to WRD

S. 1462 appears to the energy-climate bill with the best hope of passage by Congress. The bill creates several programs and studies of interest to WRD including a Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility and an Energy-Water Clean Technology Grant Program.

The bill as drafted, however, does not authorize an agency such WRD to participate in the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility or the Energy-Water Clean Technology Grant Program. Proposed modifications involve a request to broaden the eligibility provision for these two programs to allow public agencies such as WRD to participate.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

“Support and amend” position, with amendments to broaden the eligibility provision of the Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility and the Energy-Water Clean Technology Grant Program to include public agencies such as WRD.

MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 5

DATE: JULY 19, 2010
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2010-11 BUDGET REVIEW

SUMMARY

At the last External Affairs Committee meeting, the Committee Chair asked staff to review other agency budget documents and see how WRD's budget compares. Staff will give a report to the Committee on its analysis at the meeting and will await further direction from the Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.

MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. 6

DATE: JULY 19, 2010
TO: EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: WRD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

SUMMARY

At the February 19, 2010 Board Meeting, the Board approved the implementation of a WRD education program that will award five \$1,000 undergraduate scholarships for a total of \$5,000 each year.

Purpose

The purpose of the program is to promote interest among minority and women undergraduate students about diverse career opportunities within the water industry.

Criteria

Undergraduate students must be enrolled in an accredited two-year or four-year college/university and registered to take at least 12 units of coursework and be in good academic standing. In addition, applicants must complete a 500-word essay describing the applicant's knowledge and understanding about California's water situation, their personal career goals and why they would like to work in the water industry.

Eligible programs of study include but are not limited to: Environmental Studies, Floodplain Management, Geology, Geosciences, Geochemistry, Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Hydraulics, Storm Water Management, Storm Water Quality, Watershed Management, Water Technology, Accounting, Business Administration, Communications, Public Administration, Public Affairs, and Public Finance

Program Implementation:

- 1) Create and design the scholarship package that will include the WRD's scholarship guidelines and application.
- 2) The Board of Directors and senior staff will review and approve scholarship guidelines before the final package is completed.
- 3) Create and design the scholarship flyer/poster that will incorporate the various professions within the water industry, provide concise scholarship information while appealing to student applicants.
- 4) Post scholarship information on WRD website.

- 5) Staff will contact local high schools, community colleges and local universities to obtain a point person who will assist in scholarship participation.
- 6) Staff will draft and obtain approval for final scholarship invitation letter that will be mailed, along with flyer/poster, to local high schools, community colleges and universities beginning in mid-September.
- 7) Staff will draft an informational story on careers in the water industry for WRD's fall newsletter that will include all scholarship information.
- 8) Staff will pitch WRD's scholarship to local newspapers in early January announcing the official launch. In addition, a secondary news pitch will take place in early March to remind students of the deadline.
- 9) When the scholarship deadline approaches, WRD staff will time stamp all incoming applications as a means to verify their arrival.
- 10) Staff will prepare scholarship packets for first review by scholarship committee
- 11) Scholarship committee will select semi-finalist and invite them to a 20 to 30 minute interview.
- 12) Staff will schedule interviews for scholarship committee members.
- 13) Scholarship committee will select finalist.
- 14) Staff will verify student school information and enrollment.
- 15) Staff will draft congratulatory letter informing the winners.
- 16) Staff will coordinate award presentation at Board of Directors May meeting
- 17) WRD Board of Directors will present checks to winners.
- 18) WRD staff will send press release along with photograph of scholarship winners to local newspapers.

Selection Process

As proposed by staff, a WRD Selection Committee will be formed that will consist of two WRD Department Managers, the General Manager, and members of the WRD Board of Directors.

Applicants must complete an application form, provide official transcripts from all colleges/universities attended, (freshmen students must provide official high school transcripts), a brief essay, up to 500-words, describing their knowledge and understanding about California's water situation, their personal career goals and why they would like to work in the water industry.

Each year, five applicants will be selected as finalists based on their satisfying the application criteria, brief essay, transcripts and interview. The funds will be awarded as a full-year \$1,000 scholarship to each of the five winners for a total of \$5,000.

The WRD Scholarship will be promoted in the month of September 2010 to local high schools, community colleges and universities that are within Los Angeles County and will only be open to students who reside within WRD's service area. The scholarship will be open to students beginning in January 2011 for a period of 12 weeks ending at the end of March. Applications will be reviewed during the month of April and the selection of semi-finalist will be completed. Semi-finalist will be invited to participate in a 20 to 30 minute interview in April 2011 at the WRD headquarters. Scholarship finalist will be selected upon completion of their interview. Scholarship winners will be notified in early May 2011 and invited to a special awards ceremony during the May 2011 Board of Directors meeting.

Proposed WRD Scholarship application timeline

Scholarship promotion: September through December 2010

Scholarship launch: January 2011

Scholarship deadline: End of March 2011

Scholarship application review period: April 2011

Semi-finalist notification: April 2011

Semi-finalist interviews: May 2011

Winners notified: May 2011

Scholarships awarded: May 2011

FISCAL IMPACT

The item is budgeted for FY 2010-2011.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.

