

**MEETING OF THE
GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
4040 PARAMOUNT BLVD., LAKEWOOD, CA 90712
11:00 AM, TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2020**

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" or "For discussion" 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**
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3
- 3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2020**
Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee approves the minutes as submitted.
- 4. ENVIRONMENTAL SITES REVIEW**
Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file the report.
- 5. SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM UPDATE**
Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file report.
- 6. SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM OUTREACH UPDATE**
Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file report.
- 7. DEPARTMENT REPORT**
Staff Recommendation: For discussion and possible action.
- 8. DIRECTORS' REPORTS, INQUIRIES AND FOLLOW UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF**
- 9. ADJOURNMENT**
The Committee will adjourn to the next currently scheduled meeting on April 14, 2020, at 11:00 AM.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if special assistance is needed to participate in the meeting, please contact Deputy Secretary 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 are available at the District's website, www.wrd.org.

EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES – If you challenge a District action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Deputy Secretary at, or prior to, the public hearing. Any written correspondence delivered to the District office before the District's final action on a matter will become a part of the administrative record.



MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 3

DATE: MARCH 10, 2020
TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2020

SUMMARY

A meeting of the Groundwater Quality Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on January 14, 2020 at 11:08 AM at the District Office, 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712. Committee Chair Vera Robles-Dewitt called the meeting to order and presided thereafter.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Groundwater Quality Committee approves the minutes as submitted.

**MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2020
MEETING OF THE GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

A meeting of the Groundwater Quality Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on January 14, 2020 at 11:08 AM at the District Office, 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712. Committee Chair Vera Robles-DeWitt called the meeting to order and presided thereafter.

1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

A quorum was present, which included:

Committee: Director Vera Robles-DeWitt; President John D. S. Allen;
Staff Lawrence Chiu; Brian Partington; Rob Beste; Joseph Liles; Angie Mancillas; Charlene King; Eric Owens; Rob Beste; Tenisha Simeon
Public: Maria Kennedy – Kennedy Communications

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Pursuant to Government Codes Section 54954.3

Joseph Liles, the District's new Hydrogeologist, was introduced to the Committee.

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2019

Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee approve the minutes as submitted.

First:	Allen
Second:	Dewitt
Discussion:	None
Vote:	DeWitt, Yes; Allen, Yes
Result:	ITEM 3 PASSED

4. ENVIRONMENTAL SITES REVIEW

Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file report.

Manager of Hydrogeology Brian Partington provided handouts and the monthly review of environmental sites. The sites reviewed were Whittier Arco in the city of Whittier and the Foss Plating Site in the city of Santa Fe Springs.

The Groundwater Quality Committee received and filed the report

5. ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 20-1124 – AUTHORIZING ENTERING INTO A FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD FOR THE WELL DESTRUCTION PROGRAM PROJECT

Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee recommends that the Board of Directors adopt Resolution No. 20-1124 subject to approval as to form by District Counsel, authorizing WRD to enter into a funding agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board for the Well Destruction Program Project.

Mr. Partington briefed the Committee on the Resolution.

First:	Allen
Second:	Dewitt
Discussion:	None
Vote:	DeWitt, Yes; Allen, Yes
Result:	ITEM 5 PASSED

This will be a regular item for review and approval on the Board of Directors meeting agenda.

6. SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM UPDATE

Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file report.

Associate Engineer of Construction and Operations Charlene King provided an update.

The Groundwater Quality Committee received and filed the report

7. SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM OUTREACH UPDATE

Staff Recommendation: The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file report.

Manager of External Affairs Angie Mancillas and Maria Kennedy of Kennedy Communications presented.

The Groundwater Quality Committee received and filed the report

8. DEPARTMENT REPORT

Staff Recommendation: For discussion and possible action.

President Allen instructed staff to bring the 15th year anniversary of the Groundwater Contamination program to the attention of the External Affairs Committee.

9. DIRECTORS' REPORTS, INQUIRIES AND FOLLOW UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 AM.

Chair

ATTEST:

Member

Approved in minutes of: _____

Unapproved Minutes



MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 4

DATE: MARCH 10, 2020

TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL SITES REVIEW

SUMMARY

WRD continues to take an active role in groundwater quality protection, cleanup, and investigation. As part of its Groundwater Contamination Prevention Program, WRD established the Central and West Coast Basin Groundwater Contamination Forum, a data-sharing and discussion forum with key stakeholders that include various cities, water purveyors, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW), United States Geological Survey (USGS), and California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

In 2005, the stakeholders drafted and signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreeing to meet regularly and share data on major groundwater contaminated sites within the Central Basin and West Coast Basin. WRD acts as the meeting coordinator and data repository/distributor, helping stakeholders to characterize the extent of contamination to identify pathways for contaminants in shallow aquifers to reach deeper drinking water aquifers and develop optimal methods for remediating contaminated groundwater. The overall purpose of the Forum is to expedite the cleanup of these major contaminated sites in the basins.

With the cooperation and support of all stakeholders in the Groundwater Contamination Forum, WRD developed a list of high-priority groundwater contaminated sites (environmental sites) located within the District. This list is a living document, subject to cleanup and "closure" of sites, as well as discovery of new sites warranting further attention. Currently, the list includes 46 sites located throughout the Central Basin and West Coast Basin. The list was developed based on the following criteria:

- Site location and hydrogeology
- Distance to nearest drinking water well
- Depth to shallowest water-supply aquifer beneath site
- Concentration of detected contaminants

- Fate and transport of detected contaminants
- Presence of contamination in nearby drinking water wells
- Status of site characterization with respect to groundwater contamination
- Status of site remediation with respect to groundwater contamination
- Stage of regulatory agency involvement

WRD works in close consultation with the lead regulatory agencies for each of these sites to provide data and technical support to facilitate site characterization and expedite cleanup. Below is an update on a perchlorate remediation project in the City of Vernon. WRD is implemented the project with grant funds obtained through Proposition 1. An update is also provided for Whittier ARCO in the Central Basin (City of Whittier).

PERCHLORATE REMEDIATION PROJECT – PROP 1 (CITY OF VERNON)

WRD has been investigating a perchlorate groundwater “hot spot” plume with the assistance of various regulatory agencies in association with our Los Angeles Forebay Groundwater Task Force (the Project). The perchlorate detections are among the highest in the state and the groundwater plume is currently located in a deep aquifer system within the Los Angeles Forebay. WRD successfully applied for and will soon receive a grant for over \$7 million from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) through the Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program (Proposition 1). The State grant funds will help pay for approximately 80% of the remediation construction costs to treat the perchlorate impacts along with other comingled volatile organic contaminants (VOCs).

WRD staff completed several significant milestones during the fourth quarter of 2019. A summary is provided as follows:

1. Submitted grant reimbursement for \$4,162.50 (total requested is \$98,984).
2. Finalized drilling contact and started planning efforts with BC2.
3. Completed access agreements for all locations except Corsican Property.
4. Drilling notice to proceed and commence drilling program with BC2.
5. Finalized notice of exemption for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
6. Finalized and commenced Treatability Study Work Plan.

A summary of other key action items is provided in the attached table as staff continue to identify opportunities to expedite the Project.

WHITTIER ARCO (CITY OF WHITTIER, CENTRAL BASIN)

The Whittier ARCO site was recently discussed at the Groundwater Quality Committee meeting on January 14, 2020. Petroleum related concentrations in groundwater have declined considerably in response to site remediation and have not been detected above regulatory levels in active production wells owned and operated by San Gabriel Valley Water Company (Wells W-1C, W-6C, and W-6D) and by La Habra Heights County Water District (Wells #8 and #9). The site is currently being considered for closure by the RWQCB. Therefore, staff recommend removing this site from the list of high priority sites (change map symbol to a green triangle) and will do so with concurrence from the Groundwater Quality Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file the report.

Perchlorate Remediation Project – Prop 1 (City of Vernon, Central Basin)

Key Indicator Compounds in Groundwater (Results shown for Fourth Quarter 2015)			
Chemical	MCL	Wells Screened at 220-Foot	Wells Screened at 310-Foot
Perchlorate	6	64 in MW-4	4,500 in MW-3
PCE	5	8.5 in MW-4	51 in MW-3
TCE	5	670 in MW-6	310 in MW-3

Results in micrograms per liter (µg/L) / PCE = Tetrachloroethene / TCE = Trichloroethene / MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
Source: Groundwater Monitoring - November 2015 (URS, 2016).

LIST OF ACTION ITEMS

Completed through December 31, 2019	
Action Items	Completed
WRD staff held a status update meeting with several key staff at City of Vernon	10/25/18
WRD staff held status update and project planning call with DTSC	11/06/18
WRD returned legal opinion and signed grant agreement to the SWRCB	11/06/18
WRD staff received reimbursement agreement from the DTSC	11/14/18
WRD board approved reimbursement agreement with DTSC	11/21/18
WRD board approved memorandum of understanding with SWRCB & LARWQCB	11/21/18
WRD board signed reimbursement agreement with DTSC	11/26/18
Receive final signed grant agreement from SWRCB	11/28/18
Kickoff meeting with project team (including Technical Advisory Committee)	01/09/19
Received final signed reimbursement agreement from DTSC	01/11/19
Received final signed memorandum of understanding from SWRCB	01/17/19
Subsurface utility plans from City of Vernon / Utility conflict evaluation with Worley Parsons	03/08/19
First status update to Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG)	03/20/19
Finalized Project Assessment and Evaluation Plan (PAEP)	05/13/19
Finalized Remedial investigation Work Plan (RI WP)	05/15/19
Released drilling request for bids (RFB)	06/20/19
Board approve consulting contracts with Advisian and AECOM	06/20/19
Public comment completed and submitted final Engineering Evaluation / Cost Analysis (EE/CA)	06/30/19
Agency approval letter for Remedial investigation Work Plan (RI WP)	07/02/19
Treatability testing work plan meeting and general concurrence obtained from DFA, TAC, and DTSC.	08/21/19
Grant amendment for additional budget submitted to DFA	09/19/19
DTSC prepared draft notice of exemption (NOE)	09/20/19
Notice of Award: Drilling RFB (Bids received on 08/15...Committee on 09/10...Board approved on 09/19)	09/23/19
Three access agreements secured and will be discussed at Committee (11/12) and Board (Nov. 2019)	09/30/19
Finalize drilling contract and start planning efforts with BC ²	10/01/19
Completed access agreements for all locations except Corsican Property	11/21/19
Drilling notice to proceed and commence drilling program with BC ²	11/27/19
Finalized notice of exemption for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)	12/13/19
Finalize and commence Treatability Work Plan (including agency concurrence from DTSC)	12/24/19
Planned for next quarter ending March 2020	
Action Items	Due Date
Finalize grant amendment with DFA	Feb. 2019

Perchlorate Remediation Project – Prop 1 (City of Vernon, Central Basin)

Continue access agreement negotiations with Corsican Property (working with DTSC) Mar 2020

Other key action items through 2022

- Well Installs / Aquifer Testing (2019 to 2020).
- Remedial Investigation Report (2020).
- Remedial Design (2020 to 2021).
- Treatment System Construction (2021 to 2022).
- Groundwater Modeling / Search for Responsible Parties (2020 to 2022).
- Commence System Operations (February 2022).



MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 5

DATE: MARCH 10, 2020

TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM AND DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM UPDATE

SUMMARY

The District administers the Safe Drinking Water Program (SDWP) which provides grant or loan assistance to basin pumpers for wellhead treatment to remove contaminants and improve water quality. The Grant Program provides treatment for removing groundwater contaminants from man-made sources (e.g. Volatile Organic Compounds); whereas the Loan Program provides 10-year, zero-interest loans for providing water treatment to remove unacceptable levels of contaminants from natural sources (e.g. iron, manganese, and arsenic).

The District approved three wellhead treatment projects as part of the Safe Drinking Water Program: California American Water Arlington Well, Huntington Park Well 15, and Lynwood Well 11. The wellhead treatment system at all three wells will consist of a complete granular activated filtration system built within the boundaries of the existing well sites owned and operated by the water systems. All three projects are currently under construction.

Safe Drinking Water DAC Program

As an extension of the District's Safe Drinking Water Program, the District approved the creation of the Safe Drinking Water Disadvantage Communities (DAC) Program. The goal of this program is to assist water systems located in disadvantaged communities within the District's service area with state and federal funding to address the issues related to their drinking water wells. The focus of the program is to provide technical assistance and extensive outreach to help the systems secure funding that is set aside specifically for disadvantaged communities. Currently there are 11 water systems participating in the program and receiving assistance: city of Bell Gardens, city of Compton, city of Huntington Park and city of Lynwood, Maywood Mutual Water Company No. 1, Maywood Mutual Water Company No. 2, Maywood Mutual Water Company No. 3, Sativa LA County Water District, Tract 180 Mutual Water Company, Tract 349 Mutual Water Company and Walnut Park Mutual Water.

The Maywood Avenue Wellhead Treatment DAC Project is currently in the construction phase. This project will be funded through Prop 84 and Prop 1 funding and the District will be reimbursed.

Safe Drinking Water Program Outreach Efforts

Outreach efforts continue as staff is preparing follow-up outreach to cities, particularly disadvantaged communities, to schedule presentations for upcoming city council meetings to further explain WRD's programs.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file the report.



MEMORANDUM
ITEM NO. 6

DATE: MARCH 10, 2020
TO: GROUNDWATER QUALITY COMMITTEE
FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER
SUBJECT: SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM AND DISVANTAGED COMMUNITIES PROGRAM OUTREACH UPDATE

SUMMARY

The District administers an ongoing Safe Drinking Water Outreach Program aimed at providing cities, pumpers, and local legislators information about WRD's grant and loan assistance programs for wellhead treatment to protect and improve water quality. District staff participate in outreach activities and education campaigns to inform the public and elected representatives about the efforts WRD takes to ensure safe drinking water and to provide necessary resources to interested parties.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Groundwater Quality Committee receive and file the report.