



COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee: **Basin Water Management Committee**

Meeting Date: **April 10, 2019**

Present: **D. Michalko (Chair), M. Barbosa, T. Coleman, D. DeJesus, P. DiMaggio, G. Galindo, R. Gonzales, E. Hills, E. Hitchman, B. Lewis, M. Litchfield, T. Love, J. Macias, M. Malner, K. Manning, J. Martinez, T. Mortenson, H. Nguyen, L. Noriega, S. Patton, J. Prior, E. Reyes, T. Robinson, A. Tesfaye, R. Tock, C. Venegas and P. Zampiello**

Staff Present: **T. Zampiello, K. Gardner, S. Johnson and K. Smead**

I. Potential Opportunities for MWD Supplemental Water

The Executive Officer, Mr. Tony Zampiello, referred to Mr. Tom Love, General Manager, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD), to discuss projected available imported water supplies. Mr. Love explained that with the above average rainfall in the northern part of the state, the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) is looking for all opportunities to store water. He noted that the Department of Water Resources had increased the State Water Project allocation to 70 percent and that MWD's storage facilities are nearly full.

Mr. Zampiello discussed the financial aspects of buying surplus imported water including cash flow, long-term commitment and delivery hurdles. Additionally, he explained how these purchases would off-set anticipated over-production and Water Resource Development Assessment (RDA) purchases.

The Committee discussed the anticipated term of the RDA, how it might bridge into funding alternative sources down the road, and the Safe Yield of the Basin.

The Executive Officer will continue to engage with representatives from MWD and USGVMWD to maximize delivery of as much available water as possible. He will also encourage MWD to "park" water in the Basin with anticipated purchases of it over the coming years.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY -- NO ACTION REQUIRED

II. Local Supplies Update

Mr. Zampiello reported that he recently had a call with representatives from Los Angeles County Flood Control on canyon storage and deliveries. He noted that based on the estimated numbers thus far, deliveries to the lower area had been met, and therefore, he will be discussing with the San Gabriel Valley Protective Association, Distribution Committee, strategies to hold as much water as possible in the upper area for Basin recharge and recovery.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY -- NO ACTION REQUIRED

III. OSY Preliminary Determination Discussion

Mr. Zampiello prefaced the discussion by asking Mr. Steve Johnson, Consulting Engineer, to provide a brief background of the Engineer's recommendation on the Operating Safe Yield (OSY). He then stated that it would be most appropriate to ask Mr. Johnson to leave the meeting before discussion among the Producers takes places, as to not impose any opinions on the Engineer's recommendation.

Mr. Johnson discussed the parameters set forth in the Judgment on the annual OSY, and what he and staff take into consideration in making the recommendation. He also explained general impacts associated with lowering and increasing the OSY, and how it affects purchased imported water allocations and obligations. He then excused himself from the meeting.

Mr. Zampiello expanded on the discussion about the impacts of lowering the safe yield, noting that the ability to deliver supplemental water under various conditions is limited by several factors including agency allocation, DWR and financial flexibility. He explained that even though the Judgment states the recommended operating range is between 200 and 250 feet above mean sea level, he is not comfortable with increasing the safe yield until such time as the Basin has recovered and held steady for several years. He referenced the key well chart and pointed out the good rain years in 2004-05, 2010-11 and 2016-17, noting that following these years, Basin levels returned to a declining trend almost immediately. Mr. Zampiello also noted that while conservation and programs initiated by Watermaster and the Producers such as the RDA and cyclic storage purchases, have slowed the decline. However, the goal at this point is to focus on reduced production and long-term conservation measures through lifestyle changes that promote effective and efficient water usage.

Chair Michalko then lead a lengthy discussion during which the Producers present reached consensus that holding the OSY at 150,000 acre-feet until such time as the health of the Basin is evident and sustained for several years is in the best interest of everyone.

IV. Other

Committee Chair, David Michalko asked the Executive Officer to provide an overview of the PFAS sampling regulations recently released by the State Water Resources Control Board.

Mr. Zampiello reported that he had been contacted by a few Producers regarding a letter they had received requiring them to sample certain wells for a select group of constituents known to be found in Teflon, hair products, and various other common use products. He also noted that he was told that the selected sites were in a certain proximity to known landfill sites.

Mr. Zampiello stated that staff had done some research to gather pricing information to include in Watermaster's Water Quality Monitoring Program.

Following a discussion among the Committee, staff was directed to include this additional sampling work in the 2019-20 budget to be presented at the May 1, 2019 Watermaster meeting for approval.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: that the Watermaster Board approve the 2019-20 Budget with the addition of the PFAS sampling requirements.