Welcome!

ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY
STAKEHOLDERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 28, 2013
Tonight’s Agenda

- A little background: why we are here
- Some possibilities to consider
- Small group discussions of pros/cons
- Sharing inputs
- Prioritization exercise
- Wrap-up and next steps
Some Background

For context and getting everyone on the same page
The District Is Required to Achieve and Preserve the Desired Future Conditions of Its Aquifers

- DFCs are established by joint planning of GCDs in the District’s Groundwater Management Area.
- The critical DFC for the Barton Springs Aquifer is maintaining a minimum monthly springflow of 6.5 cfs at Barton Springs during a Drought of Record recurrence.
- Issue permits “to extent possible” up to point that total exempt and non-exempt production volumes will achieve applicable DFCs.
Groundwater: The Most Important Consideration to Achieving Our Desired Future Condition
Permitted Pumpage and DOR Springflows

- **Current Permitted Volumes (No Drought)**: 0 cfs of pumping
- **Drought of Record (1950s)**: 10 cfs of pumping (Conditional 40% curtailment)
- **Desired Future Condition**: 11.7 cfs of pumping (Upper MAG)
- **Current Permitted Volumes (Extreme Drought)**: 5.2 cfs of pumping (Lower MAG)

Upper MAG (16 cfs of pumping)

Drought of Record (11.7 cfs)

Lower MAG (5.2 cfs of pumping)
The Gap

A difference of 1.5 CFS (on a monthly average basis) exists between what maximum pumping is needed to achieve the extreme drought DFC (the MAG) and what our most stringently curtailed pumping authorizes.
General Approaches That Address the Gap

- Change DFCs/MAGs
- Use actual withdrawals, not authorized withdrawals in assessment
- “Engineered solutions”
- Increase Supply During Drought
- Decrease Demand During Drought
- Others?
General Approaches That Address the Gap

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- Decrease Demand During Drought
- Others?
The Two Fundamental Statutory Requirements for the District’s Regulatory Program

- Issue permits “to extent possible” up to point that total exempt and non-exempt production volumes will achieve applicable DFCs
- Permit-based regulatory programs must provide a balance between the “maximum practicable groundwater production” and “preserving, conserving, and protecting” the groundwater resource
Overview and Discussion of Some Possible Approaches

Based on the White Paper

Discussion Led By

Robin Gary,
BSEACD Education and Outreach Team Leader
In This Section:

- Review of results of survey of SAC members
- Summary of nine possibilities for District involvement in alternative water supplies
- Breakout into three small groups for discussing and benefits and drawbacks
- Recording and submitting what you want to report to the other SAC members
SAC Member Survey Results

THANKS FOR THE QUICK-RESPONSE TURNAROUND!
The District’s pursuit of Alternate Water Supplies should: (rank in order of priority - 1 being the most important to you)

- Provide additional water for regional growth
- Lessen the strain on current groundwater resources
- Help current permittees meet demands (especially during drought)
- Establish an effective monitoring program to monitor use of alternate...
What do you feel are the most effective/appropriate ways for the District to encourage use of alternative water supplies? (rank or mark as Not Appropriate)

- Modify Rules and Bylaws
- Push for legislative change
- Participate in Public/Private Partnerships to develop new water supplies
- Conduct studies that would collect data required for feasibility studies
Nine Possibilities To Be Examined Tonight

APPROACHES THE DISTRICT COULD USE TOWARD DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLIES
1

Change rules to require switching a portion of historical use to alternate supplies by geographic area according to available alternative supplies by a certain date.
Incentivize switching

2&3

Change rules and/or statute to incentivize switching a portion of historical pumpage to alternate supplies to reduce authorized pumpage during ERP once a MAG is reached.
Alter or remove groundwater use fee cap

4

Push for legislative change to remove fee cap. This would make raw groundwater use cost comparable to raw surface water cost, and could provide a revenue source to develop alternative supplies.
Have the BSEACD develop new supplies to replace historical pumpage and/or provide new water to others for the region.
Public-private partnerships as regional water suppliers

Participate in public-private partnerships to develop replacement and new water supplies. The BSEACD could provide driver for preferential use.
Develop science for alternate supply feasibility studies

Develop scientific basis for feasibility studies for desalination and ASR in Saline Zone and/or Lower and Middle Trinity aquifers.
Encourage permittees, developers, and other stakeholder—rather than BSEACD—to conduct studies and form partnerships that could finance and operate new water supply plants and systems.
What did we miss?
Please explain.
Discussion of the Possibilities
By Break-out Groups

1. ASSIGNMENT TO BREAK-OUT GROUPS
2. SELECTION OF RECORDING SECRETARY
3. SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION OF BENEFITS, DRAWBACKS, AND ISSUES OF POSSIBILITIES, AND SELECTION OF NO MORE THAN FIVE TO SUPPORT/DING
4. CONFIRMATION OF INFORMATION RECORDED AND THEN REPORTED
5. SHORT BREAK WHEN COMPLETE
BE SURE TO PICK UP YOUR “AQUA BUCKS” COMPENSATION FOR PARTICIPATING IN TONIGHT’S SESSION FROM ROBIN RIGHT AFTER YOU RETURN FROM THE BREAK!
Sharing Thoughts of Each Small Group on Possible Approaches

REVIEW OF THE SMALL GROUPS’ PROS & CONS FOR EACH APPROACH WITH LARGER GROUP

DISCUSSION LED BY:

JOHN DUPNIK, P.G.
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
EACH SAC MEMBER WILL INDIVIDUALLY DISTRIBUTE ALL OF THEIR COMPENSATION TO FUND ONE, TWO, OR MORE APPROACHES THAT ARE BEST IN THEIR OPINION, CONSIDERING TONIGHT’S DISCUSSIONS

A PRIORITIZATION OF THE PARTICIPATING SAC MEMBERS
Wrap Up Remarks

WHAT’S NEXT, RESULTS OF FUNDING EXERCISE, AND...
ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD AND STAFF OF THE DISTRICT

SAFE TRAVELS HOME!