



Desalination Task Force
7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, May 18, 2011
Soquel Creek Water District Board Room
5180 Soquel Drive Soquel, CA 95073

Minutes

The Desalination Task Force consists of two members of the Soquel Creek Water District Board and two members of the City of Santa Cruz City Council.

Call to Order Councilmember D. Lane (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Director B. Jaffe, Director D. Kriege, and Councilmember D. Lane (Chair).
Absent: Councilmember D. Terrazas.
Staff: General Manager L. Brown, Water Director B. Kocher, Desalination Program Coordinator H. Luckenbach and Public Outreach Coordinator M. Schumacher.

Presentation

P. Meyerhofer presented the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Engineering Excellence Merit Award in the Research Division for the scwd² SWRO Desalination Pilot Plant Test Program to the scwd² Desalination Program

Statements of Disqualification There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications

Oral Communications were made by P. Gratz, Santa Cruz Desal Alternatives and P. Pethoe. All written materials provided by member of the public will be included in the original papers.

Announcements

General Manager Brown reported that she and Water Director Kocher attended the ACWA Conference in Sacramento last week. The CalDesal meeting was well attended and both agencies were honored as Charter Members.

Approval of Minutes

On page 5 of the minutes add the following sentence to the first paragraph Information Item 1. **scwd**² Desalination Program Timeline & Pre-design Estimates – Inflation from 2002 to 2015 in addition to the further development of design has had a major impact on the original cost estimates.

Director D. Kriege moved approval of the April 20, 2011 **scwd**² Desalination Task Force minutes as amended. Director B. Jaffe seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Jaffe and D. Kriege.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: D. Lane.

General Business

1. SWRO Desalination Facility Desalination Process Configuration

Desalination Program Coordinator Luckenbach provided the staff report on this item. The Task Force is being asked to provide its comments on Tech Memo #2 and concur with the staff recommendation on the reverse osmosis processes.

Public Comment

Oral comments were made by Water Commissioner A. Schiffrin, P. Pethoe and P. Gratz.

Task Force Comments

What is the basis of the annual energy cost listed on page 19? The energy costs are based upon using standard high-efficiency electric motors and are inflated 3% to the assumed mid-point of construction.

Page 20 Table 3 (July) is incorrect.

It will be necessary to determine whether the site location of the plant will include meeting rooms and a space for public educational programs.

The task force discussed at length the facility's potential expanded capacity of 4.5 mgd. It was suggested that all future documents that reference an expanded capacity of 4.5 mgd include a footnote that explains that this plant could be increased to 4.5 mgd but in order to do so would be an entirely new project and would require a full environmental review. The scope of the current EIR in relation to this issue was discussed as well.

Information on space requirements for brine disposal will be provided to the Task Force at a future meeting.

The Soquel Creek Board of Directors would like the opportunity to review Tech Memo #2 Desalination Process Preliminary Design prior to the Task Force taking action. Tech Memo #2 will not be reproduced for the June packet, please save your copy.

2. Update on Facility Siting

Desal Program Coordinator Luckenbach reported that five potential sites are being evaluated. CDM is developing the site plan and URS is conducting habitat surveys.

Task Force Comments

Site No. 4 appears that it would be difficult due to habitat issues.

The Soquel Creek Board of Directors would like the opportunity to review the update on Facility Siting at its next meeting.

No action was taken on this item.

3. Energy Study Status Report and Proposed Evaluation Criteria

Desalination Program Coordinator Luckenbach reported that the Task Force is being asked to provide its comments on the renewable energy project evaluation criteria, criteria weighting and mitigation goal selection. This information will be provided to the Energy Study Technical Working Group (TWG) at its next meeting.

Public Comment

Water Commissioner A. Schiffrin suggested that it may be helpful to provide this item to both the District Board and the City Water Commission in order to provide more opportunity for public comment.

Task Force Comments

The Soquel Creek Board of Directors would like the opportunity to review the Energy Study Status Report and Proposed Evaluation Criteria at its next meeting.

Page 64 • Environmental and Community Impacts – Land, Air, Water, Waste, Noise and Aesthetics should be listed separately.

By consensus, the Task Force approved the proposed energy project evaluation criteria as presented. The Soquel Creek Water District Board of Directors and the City of Santa Cruz Water Department may provide additional comments to the Task Force on this item.

Program Managers' Report

A. Work Schedule

- Kick-off meeting for the Energy Study Technical Working Group was held on May 12th.
- The first biological surveys were completed on the potential sites.

B. Upcoming Tasks

- Additional surveys will be conducted in May/June at potential sites.
- Work continues on alternative sites for the intake, facility and tanks.
- Energy Study Technical Working Group Mitigation Project Workshop
- Finalize the Intake Studies

C. Additional or Amended Tasks

- Brown & Caldwell will be writing an application to the State Lands Commission to amend the permit for the outfall. (June)

D. Contacts with Regulatory Agencies/Requests from Regulatory Agencies

- Meetings were held with Coastal Commission, Regional Board, Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary and the State Lands Commission.

E. Contracts

No Report

F. Public Outreach Program

- Public Outreach Coordinator Schumacher reported that the latest backgrounder for the District is complete and the FAQ page on the website is being revised.

G. Budget

No Report.

H. Report of Findings

No Report.

Public Outreach No action was taken on this item.

1. News Article – City on the Hill Press 04/14/11
2. News Article – SC Good Times 04/19/11
3. News Article – SC Sentinel 04/15/11
4. News Article – SC Sentinel 04/20/11
5. News Article – SC Sentinel 04/21/11
6. News Article – City on the Hill Press 04/21/11

7. News Article – SC Sentinel 04/24/11
8. News Article – SC Sentinel 04/25/11
9. News Article – SC Sentinel 04/26/11
10. News Article – SC Sentinel 05/08/11

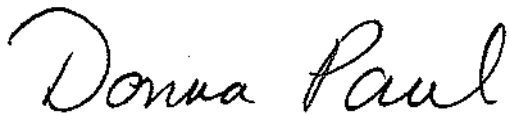
Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

Director Jaffe requested that a discussion of the Public Outreach approach be held at a future meeting and will provide his written comments to the Public Outreach Coordinator.

Adjournment

The next regular meeting of the Desalination Task Force is scheduled for Wednesday, June 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the City of Santa Cruz Water Department Conference Room, 212 Locust Street, Suite A, Santa Cruz, California.

Respectfully submitted,



Staff