



## Desalination Task Force

7:00 p.m. – Wednesday, September 21, 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 called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

### Roll Call

**Present:** Director B. Jaffe, Director B. Daniels, Councilmember D. Lane and Councilmember D. Terrazas.

**Staff:** General Manager L. Brown, Water Director B. Kocher, Assistant Engineer S. O'Hara and Public Outreach Coordinator M. Schumacher.

**Others:** T. Reynolds and A. Zelenka, Kennedy Jenks Consultants.

**Presentation** There were no presentations.

**Statements of Disqualification** There were no statements of disqualification.

**Oral Communications** There were no oral communications.

**Announcements** A corrected version of the agenda and minutes were provided.

### Approval of Minutes

Councilmember D. Terrazas moved approval of the corrected June 15, 2011 Desalination Task Force meeting minutes with an additional change on page 7, replacing the word believe with think. Director B. Jaffe seconded.

VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED

AYES: B. Jaffe, D. Lane and D. Terrazas.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: B. Daniels.

**Information Items** No action was taken on this item

1. Email from P. Gratz dated 08/29/11

### General Business

1. Amendments to Memorandum of Agreement to create a Joint Task Force to pursue the feasibility of construction and operation of a Seawater Desalination Facility, and to the Agreement endorsing recommendations of Joint Task Force on Seawater Desalination Facility

General Manager Brown provided the staff report and answered task force questions.

Public Comments were made by A. Schiffrin.

#### Task Force Comments

Director B. Daniels expressed concern that the process laid out is very awkward and gives advantage to the agency going first. He also stated that the process as proposed does not allow for collective deliberation and proposed revising the process to allow full participation by everyone at the dais prior to each agency taking a “sense of vote.”

The EIR hearings could take several meetings, and it is important to determine whether the matter will be reopened for public comment at each session..

Staff will seek a legal opinion on the formation of an Ad hoc committee for the purpose of working through the EIR comments as co-lead agencies as well as the issues of full participation by both governing bodies in the deliberations and public comment at continued meetings..

**ACTION:** The Task Force requested that the amendment presented be revised based upon Task Force discussion and return at a future meeting for approval.

2. Intake Feasibility Study

Water Director Kocher provided the staff report and answered task force questions.

Public Comments were made by P. Pethoe and A. Schiffrin.

Director B. Daniels moved to accept the draft report from Kennedy/Jenks Consultants titled scwd2 Seawater Desalination Intake Technical Feasibility Study (ITFS) and accept as final with comments incorporated as appropriate. Councilmember D. Terrazas seconded.

#### **VOICE VOTE: MOTION CARRIED**

**AYES:** B. Daniels, B. Jaffe, D. Lane and D. Terrazas.

**NOES:** None.

3. Energy Study Status Report: CEQA Update and Project Assessment Presentation

Assistant Engineer S. O’Hara and A. Zelenka (Kennedy/Jenks Consultants) provided the staff report and answered Task Force questions. The powerpoint presentation will be included in the original papers.

Public Comments were made by P. Pethoe and A. Schiffrin.

#### Task Force Comments

Reliability and Operational Complexity should be pass/fail. Energy Production and GHG Reduction may not be useful as criteria.

It should be clarified how the EIR will handle GHG mitigation projects.

It was suggested that having a particular goal such as “net carbon neutral” should be identified early in the process.

It appears that the Community Meeting on December 8, 2011 may present information that has not been reviewed by the task force.

It was suggested to add what percentage each project contributes towards the goal.

The EIR needs to adequately address the energy mitigation projects.

For the record, the sixteen (16) draft Project Assessments were not provided at the meeting and will be provided at a future date.

No action was taken on this item.

### **Program Managers' Report**

#### A. Work Schedule

- Modeling is underway to establish necessary infrastructure improvements to move water from the City to the District. This information will be used to inform the EIR

#### B. Upcoming Tasks

- Work continues on Conceptual Intake Design Study and the Project Description for the EIR
- The Energy Study will evaluate, score and rank projects with assistance from ETWG.

#### C. Additional or Amended Tasks.

No report.

#### D. Contacts with Regulatory Agencies/Requests from Regulatory Agencies

- A meeting is being scheduled in October with the Army Corp of Engineers to discuss permitting.

#### E. Contracts

No report.

#### F. Public Outreach Program

- Utility bill inserts have been sent out with City water bills; District customers should begin seeing them at the end of this month.
- Public outreach presentations were made to Keller Williams Realty and Sustainable Water Coalition. The list of groups to which presentations have been made is on the scwd<sup>2</sup> website.
- Will be conducting one-on-one interviews with customers this fall to get a better understanding of how informed they are about water supply and the desal project.
- Community Meeting on Energy Issues related to Desal and the scwd<sup>2</sup> Energy Plan has been scheduled for December 8 at Live Oak School.

- Quarterly update of the public outreach efforts will be presented to the Task Force at its October meeting.
- Most recent presentation of the Water Supply Plan was recorded and will be aired on Community Television
- Currently, there are two kinds of links to the scwd<sup>2</sup> website: 1) Media or news articles along with opinions and editorials; and 2) Desal related organizations to which scwd<sup>2</sup> belongs and other governmental sites that have information about desalination. A recommendation on a web link policy will be brought to the task force for consideration at a future meeting.

The Task Force requested that staff work with Community Television to develop a link to the scwd2 website.

#### G. Budget

No report.

#### H. Report of Findings

No report.

**Media Articles** No action was taken on this item.

1. News Article – Aptos Times 06/15/11
2. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 06/21/11
3. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 07/20/11
4. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 07/26/11
5. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 07/28/11
6. News Article – Santa Cruz Weekly 08/03/11
7. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 08/23/11
8. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 08/28/11
9. News Article – Santa Cruz Sentinel 09/13/11

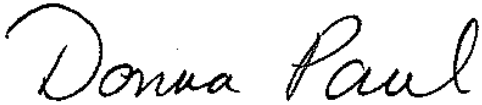
#### **Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas**

- Discussion of City-specific requirements for plant construction, i.e. GHG, public art and local hire.
- Discussion of plant ownership and governance.
- Statistics on Public Outreach

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m. until the next regular meeting of the Desalination Task Force scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 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