

SoCal CUWCC Group 1 Caucus

Notes from meeting of March 7, 2008

Future Meetings: MWD has agreed to host future meetings of the Caucus. MWD has monthly Water Use Efficiency meeting. Half of the MWD meeting taking place just prior to the CUWCC Plenary meetings will be dedicated to CUWCC issues.

Other southern California water agencies, not just those in MWD's service area, will be invited to attend the CUWCC caucus portion of the meeting via conference call.

The quarterly meeting agenda should be worked out in advance, to the extent possible. Input should come from southern California Group 1 Steering Committee members, members of the CUWCC MOU and BMP revision committees, and other interested Group 1 members.

Model Landscape Ordinance

DWR's is accepting comments on its draft model landscape. The public workshop/ hearing in Southern California is on March 27th; the day public comment closes!

AB 1420 Implementation

AB 1420 was a bill that is now law; it essentially restricting water agencies' access to state funds if the water agencies are not in 100% compliance with the CUWCC's BMPs. DWR is accepting comments on its draft implementation language. See the attached letters from the SDCWA , MWD and the NRDC.

DWR: <http://www.owue.water.ca.gov/docs/2008wuePSPE Exhibits4.doc>

AB 2175:

Bill summary: see "AB 2175 summary.doc"

Discussion: 1) Very important that this bill be congruent with AB 1420 (passed last year, potentially reducing or eliminating state funds to agencies not 100% in compliance with the BMPs).

2) Governor had said he may require water agencies to reduce per capita water use by 20% by 2020; someone thought he may have changed that to a 10% reduction. This bill should implement and/or be congruent with the Governor's goals.

3) One water agency concerned: it's per capita went from 180 gpcd to just 120 so it needs to be protected from additional aggressive cuts.

4) Expect the bill to change significantly over the next few months.

5) Because it requires water agencies to submit audited reports on all the technically feasible conservation measures on DWR's list, every 2 years, we need to think about the future relevance of the CUWCC. Especially in light of the pending AB 2175 and of AB 1420 becoming law, some thought should be given to the necessity and wisdom of completing the BMP and MOU revision process.

Next SoCal CUWCC Group 1 Caucus agenda could include the following

- Progress of AB 1420 implementation by DWR
- AB 2175 update (new bill mandating at least 3 maf/yr additional water conservation and, possibly, mandating conservation that is not locally cost-effective)
- Updates/ positions/ recommendations related to the 5 CUWCC committees regarding MOU and BMP revisions.
- Because the MOU is expiring in 2008, Group 1 should consider the consequences of a failure to extend the MOU.

For several reasons, including the fact that quarterly meeting would take place about 3 weeks before the Plenary Meetings, the CUWCC will be asked to post its draft agenda for the Plenary Meetings 5 to 6 weeks before the Plenary (with the understanding that all attachments may not be available) .

Requests to be made of the CUWCC

1. Post the agenda a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the Plenary Meetings
2. Arrange the Plenary agenda so that core CUWCC issues are dealt with in the morning and the less pressing/ vital agenda items reserved for the afternoon.