



Desalination Task Force Minutes

4:00 p.m. – Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Soquel Creek Water District Board Room
5180 Soquel Drive, Soquel California

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.

For the purpose of preparation of the minutes the following terms will be used throughout the current and all future minutes. The City of Santa Cruz/Soquel Creek Water District Desalination Task Force will be referred to as the “Task Force.” The City of Santa Cruz will be referred to as the “City” and the City of Santa Cruz Water Department will be referred to as the “SCWD.” The Soquel Creek Water District will be referred to as “SqCWD.” A member of the Soquel Creek Water District Board of Directors will be referred to as “Director” and the Soquel Creek Water District General Manager will be referred to as “General Manager.” A member of the Santa Cruz City Council will be referred to as “Councilmember” and the Director of the City of Santa Cruz Water Department will be referred to as “Water Director.”

Call to Order Director B. Daniels called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. in the Soquel Creek Water District Board Room, 5180 Soquel Drive, Soquel California.

Roll Call

Present: Director B. Daniels, Director D. Kriege, Councilmember C. Mathews (arrived at 4:30 p.m.) and Councilmember E. Porter.

Staff: L. Brown, General Manager; B. Kocher, Water Director; H. Luckenbach, Desalination Program Coordinator; D. Paul, Administrative Assistant and M. Schumacher, Public Outreach Coordinator.

Consultants: Todd Reynolds, Kennedy Jenks Consultants and Mark Millan, Data Instincts.

Presentation There were no presentations.

Statements of Disqualification There were no statements of disqualification.

Oral Communications There were no oral communications.

Announcements

Director B. Daniels reported that he attended the Save Our Shores Forum on Desalination on May 19, 2008 and the Tools for Addressing Climate Change and Local Water Sources on May 14, 2008. He also spoke about an article that he had read on a deionization process being used in Australia.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of April 16, 2008 Desalination Task Force meeting were continued to the June 18, 2008 meeting.

General Business

1. Intake Evaluation - Conceptual Plan Presentation

Desalination Program Coordinator Luckenbach reported that the next phase of the Desalination Program is the Intake Investigation and introduced Todd Reynolds of Kennedy Jenks Consultants.

Mr. Reynolds presented information on different approaches that other agencies are pursuing for intake structures.

He recommended that both the subsurface (beach well type) and the screened open water intake methods be investigated simultaneously. The subsurface investigation will include a survey for an offshore marine channel and if one is found to take borings to characterize the offshore alluvium. The open water intake portion will include a survey of the existing outfall to determine the optimum intake screen location and to conduct a twelve month entrainment study/impact assessment. A draft Request for Proposals for both studies will be provided to the task force at a future meeting.

Task Force Comments

The local scientific community should be involved in the peer review of this work.

2. Draft Operational Plan & Agreement – Capital Cost Sharing Discussion

The Draft Operational Plan & Agreement is an ongoing work product and standing agenda item.

Water Director Kocher reported that he and General Manager Brown have been working on the issue of Capital Cost Sharing.

Task Force Comments

The idea of agreeing upon a formula for cost sharing will eliminate the need to negotiate each individual item.

The Task Force requested that staff develop scenarios on how a formula may work in different climate situations and through more serious drought conditions.

3. Public Outreach Efforts

Public Outreach Coordinator Schumacher reported that the current Public Outreach Program is based solely upon the Pilot Plant and should be modified to look at both agencies overall water supply programs.

The Task Force discussed the need to determine an approach to take on the opponents of the desalination project. It was suggested that a study session be held in order to find out what the concerns are of the opponents to desalination.

A strategy for the Public Outreach Program needs to be developed to convey the overall water story for both agencies, i.e. how we got to where we are today and where we are going in the future.

The Task Force requested that staff work with Kennedy Jenks Consultants to develop a public outreach strategy and work plan for the overall Public Outreach Program for a future meeting.

Program Managers' Report

A. Work Schedule

Kennedy Jenks has finalized the technical memorandum on the intake approach.

B. Upcoming Tasks

The Pilot Plant continues with investigation number one with all four pretreatment trains up and running for another six weeks. The source water is of good quality with low turbidity.

Peer review of the modeling report for the Watershed Sanitary Survey is complete and edits are being made.

RFPs for the Entrainment Study and Offshore Geophysical Survey will be brought to the task force next month.

An Assistant Engineer is being hired to work on the project.

Eight potential sites for the full scale plant are being investigated by the Planning Department for fatal flaws.

C. Additional or Amended Tasks none

No report.

D. Contacts with Regulatory Agencies/Requests from Regulatory Agencies

The first report for the Proposition 50 grant is being prepared. Staff will be meeting with Department of Public Health in early July to review monitoring efforts. A check ceremony will be held on June 5th at the Pilot Plant.

E. Public Outreach Program

Nothing further to report

F. Report of Findings

No Report.

Public Outreach *No action was taken on this item.*

Items Initiated by Members for Future Agendas

General Manager Brown provided two items from the ACWA Desalination Committee meeting held at the recent conference in Monterey. She reported that the Desalination Policy Principles and Policy Statement will adopted at a future meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. until the next regular meeting of the Desalination Task Force scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the City of Santa Cruz Water Department Conference Room, 212 Locust Street Suite A, Santa Cruz, California.

Respectfully submitted,

Staff