

## MEETING NOTES

---

# Basin Monitoring Program Task Force

June 24, 2020

### STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT:

**Chino Basin Watermaster**, Edgar Tellez Foster\*  
**City of Beaumont**, Thaxton VanBelle\*  
**City of Beaumont**, Kevin Lee\*  
**City of Corona**, Melissa Estrada\*  
**City of Corona**, Jennifer McMullin\*  
**City of Rialto**, Tom Crowley\*  
**City of Redlands**, Shannon Simmers\*  
**City of Riverside**, Bobby Gustafson\*  
**City of Riverside**, Robert Eland\*  
**City of Riverside**, Edward Filadelfia\*  
**City of Riverside**, Greg Herzog\*  
**City of Riverside**, Michael Plinski\*  
**Eastern Municipal Water District**, Al Javier\*

**Eastern Municipal Water District**, Doug Edwards\*  
**Elsinore Valley Municipal WD**, Jesus Gastelum\*  
**Elsinore Valley Municipal WD**, Lenai Hunter\*  
**Elsinore Valley Municipal WD**, Margie Armstrong\*  
**Elsinore Valley Municipal WD**, Parag Kalaria\*  
**Inland Empire Utilities Agency**, Eddie Lin\*  
**Orange County Water District**, Greg Woodside\*  
**Orange County Water District**, Kevin O'Toole\*  
**San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District**, Matt Howard\*  
**SBMWD/RIX JPA**, Jennifer Shepardson\*  
**WMWD/WRCRWA**, Mallory Gandara\*  
**Yucaipa Valley Water District**, Ashley Gibson\*  
**Yucaipa Valley Water District**, Jennifer Ares\*

### OTHERS PRESENT:

GEI Consultants, Richard Meyerhoff\*  
Geoscience Support Services, Dennis Williams\*  
Geoscience Support Services, Johnson Yeh\*  
Geoscience Support Services, Lauren Wicks\*  
Kahn Soares & Conway, LLP, Theresa (Tess) Dunham\*  
LeClaire & Associates, Joe LeClaire\*  
Risk Sciences, Tim Moore\*  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, T. Milford Harrison\*  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Mark Norton\*

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Haley Mullay\*  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Cindy Li\*  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Eric Lindberg\*  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Keith Person\*  
Tom Dodson & Associates, Kaitlyn Dodson-Hamilton\*  
WEI, Sodavy Ou\*  
WEI, Samantha Adams\*  
WSC, Michael Cruikshank\*

\* Participated via conference call

### STAKEHOLDERS ABSENT:

**Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District**  
**City of Banning**  
**Irvine Ranch Water District**

**Jurupa Community Services District**  
**San Geronio Pass Water Agency**  
**Temescal Valley Water District**

### Call to Order/Introductions

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force (Task Force) meeting commenced at 1:02 p.m. in a virtual Zoom Meeting, in response to, and in compliance with, COVID-19 regulations. Brief introductions were made.

### Approval of May 13, 2020 Meeting Notes

The May 13, 2020 meeting notes were approved as posted. A comment was then made by Cindy Li, of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, confirming that the memorandum discussed in the last meeting was sent to the State Water Board.

### Triennial Ambient Water Quality Update – WSC, Inc.

Michael Cruikshank, of WSC, Inc., provided a verbal report on the Triennial Ambient Water Quality (AWQ) Update. All the comments received have been reviewed and incorporated into the report. The final report and deliverables should be ready for distribution to the Task Force early next week.

Eric Lindberg, of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), gave an overview of a letter, submitted to SAWPA just a few days prior to the meeting. It was then distributed to the Task Force via email for review and comment/response. The letter detailed the Regional Board's responses to recommendations provided in the *Recomputation of Ambient Water Quality in the Santa Ana River Watershed for Period 1999 – 2018* report. The letter reviewed their recommendations to ensure tasks are completed to support a future of compliance under the 2019 Recycled Water Policy.

During the meeting, Eric Lindberg briefly reiterated the main points of the letter to ensure an emphasis on:

- Continuing the current schedule of the Triennial AWQ reporting and data collection with the next period of 2002-2021, not 2006-2025 as proposed in the report.
- Improving well attrition analysis and well data quality to mitigate potential data gaps by loss of point statistic
- Analyzing hotspots in the watershed to proactively achieve compliance under the Recycled Water Policy
- Utilizing this time to update the hydrogeological models and the physical characteristics of the groundwater management zones

Tim Moore, of Risk Sciences, wanted to confirm with WSC that they are still able to move forward and publish the full report on time. WSC indicated that they were. Mr. Moore recommended a small acknowledgement in the report stating that the Task Force will be re-establishing its Scoping Committee to address the concerns presented by the Regional Board. He added that it would be best to have the Scoping Committee first prioritize each task to allow for effective management of the Task Force's efforts.

Tim Moore strongly recommended taking advantage of existing resources, such as utilizing the integrated model that the Imported Water Recharge Workgroup is currently putting together, to avoid getting stuck in projects that will drain the Task Force of precious time and budget. He also addressed a recommendation, that was not listed in the Regional Board's recent letter but had been topic of discussion in recent meetings: landfills. The topic of landfills being a source of salts and nitrates in the groundwater basins gives support to the fact that more than just the water dischargers influence the groundwater quality.

Upon hearing the ideas and suggestions from Tim Moore, Eric Lindberg, of the Regional Board, added that if the Task Force were to commit to a master schedule, like that of Tim Moore's response, then there can be compromises on the objective period for the next Ambient Water Quality Recomputation. Cindy Li agreed with this, echoing the main concern of not wanting to waste the extra time that the Task Force has been given.

Looking forward, WSC will coordinate with Mark Norton, of SAWPA, on planning for the final presentation to SAWPA's Commission. Eric Lindberg, of the RWQCB, expressed interest in the electronic deliverables being accessible via web access to stakeholders, including the Regional Board, to assist the continuing efforts of the Task Force. WSC and SAWPA will be working together to transfer the web-based deliverables from WSC to the SAWPA's ArcGIS servers, now that they are complete.

### **Santa Ana River Wasteload Allocation Model Recalibration Final Report – Geoscience**

Johnson Yeh, of Geoscience, and Lauren Wicks, of Geoscience, gave a joint PowerPoint presentation on the recalibration of the Wasteload Allocation Model (WLAM) in the Upper Temescal Valley area. They thoroughly reviewed the issues, the corrections, and the results for all updates that were made, as well as a complete review of each Reach in the Santa Ana River. The updated report has been issued and is a final version of the report.

### **Draft Basin Plan Amendment Status – Risk Sciences/KSC**

Tim Moore, of Risk Sciences, and Tess Dunham of, Kahn, Soares, and Conway, gave a verbal update on the Basin Plan Amendment draft. Since there have been some changes in the predicted status of degradation for some reaches as shown by the Wasteload Allocation Model (WLAM), the draft Basin Plan Amendment had been placed on hold while the WLAM has been recalibrated and updated by Geoscience. Now that the model has been reviewed and finalized, the writing can continue. The first 11 pages of the Amendment have been completed, with the last 5-6 dependent on the WLAM. Mr. Moore stated that since the existing language in the Basin Plan often refers to the WLAM completed by Wildermuth Environmental, Inc. which dates back to 2004, data and tables from the newest WLAM will provide a foundation that supports the proposed changes within the Basin Plan Amendment.

Tim Moore plans for the Task Force to review a tracked change version of the draft Basin Plan Amendment in the coming weeks. The goal is to have the Basin Plan Amendment completed by the end of August. Once the Basin Plan Amendment is completed, GEI and Joe LeClaire & Associates will be able to get their CEQA analysis work started.

#### **Schedule Future Meetings**

The next Basin Monitoring Program Task Force meeting, which will be conducted virtually due to COVID-19, has been scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, at 1:00 p.m.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.