



INFORMATION ITEM

California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Delta Conveyance Update

Summary

Staff from DWR will provide an update on the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP). DWR has previously provided updates to the Council on the DCP, including in January, April, July, and November of 2023 and February 2024. Today's presentation will address the recently released cost estimate and benefit-cost analysis for the DCP and next steps related to the DCP's planning and permitting efforts.

Background

The DCP is a project proposed by DWR to construct new State Water Project infrastructure to export water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta).

DWR certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the DCP and approved the Bethany Reservoir Alignment in December 2023. The Council received an update on this phase in February 2024. On May 16, 2024, DWR released a benefit-cost analysis for the DCP.

Relationship to the Delta Plan

The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 (Wat. Code, § 85000 et seq.; Delta Reform Act) charges the Council with implementing the Delta Plan (Wat. Code, § 85204.) and gives the Council appellate authority over certain actions in the Delta, defined as "covered actions," to ensure that covered actions in the Delta are consistent with Delta Plan regulatory policies. (Wat. Code, §§ 85225, 85225.10, 85225.15, 85225.20, 85225.25.) An agency undertaking a covered action must certify to the Council that its action is consistent with the Delta Plan. As described in the Final Environmental Impact Report, the DCP is a covered action. The Council anticipates receiving a certification of consistency from DWR in 2025. That certification of consistency would be appealable pursuant to the Delta Reform Act.

Delta Conveyance Project Update

Carrie Buckman, DWR's Environmental Program Manager for Delta Conveyance, will provide an update on the recently released cost estimate and benefit-cost analysis for the DCP.

Fiscal Information

Not applicable.

List of Attachments

No attachments.

Contact

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