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Demonstrating contributions to reduced reliance on the Delta and improved regional self-reliance

November 2023

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Disclaimer: These pages are for discussion purposes only.

DWR's decision whether to approve the proposed project or a project alternative will be made only after DWR finalizes and considers the final EIR in conjunction with making CEQA findings and adopting a statement of overriding considerations.



Presentation Agenda

- Identifying a Need
- Developing a process
- Outreach
- Consolidating the data
- Conclusions and future use

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Delta Reform Act and the Delta Plan

The Delta Reform Act of 2009

- Coequal Goals
 - Reliable Water Supplies
 - Ecosystem Restoration





The Delta Plan

- Further the coequal goals
- Protect Delta as an evolving place
- "Covered Actions" must be consistent



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Delta Plan Certification Process

Covered Action

- State or local agency project
- In whole or in part in the Delta
- Significantly affects coequal goals or state flood control

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Certification of Consistency

- Submitted after CEQA review and agency approval of a proposed project but before implementation
- Detailed factual findings of consistency with applicable policies prepared by the agency approving the covered actions



Delta Plan Reduced Reliance Policy WR P1

(Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 5003)

<u>Prohibits</u> any covered action that would export water from, transfer water through, or use water in the Delta

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- Delta Conveyance Program
- Potentially multi-year cross-Delta water transfers

<u>Unless</u> the answer to at least one of the following is "no"

- Has one or more water suppliers failed to adequately reduced reliance?
- Has the failure of one or more suppliers to reduce reliance significantly caused the need for the action?
- Will the export or use have a significant adverse impact in the Delta?



Delta Plan Reduced Reliance Policy WR P1

(Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 5003)

Prohibits any covered action that would export water from, transfer water through, or use water in the Delta

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- Delta Conveyance Program
- Potentially multi-year cross-Delta water transfers

Unless the answer to at least one of the following is "no"

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WR P1 subsection (c)(1)

A supplier is contributing to reduced reliance on the Delta and improved regional self-reliance if it:

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•(c)(1)(A) Has a DWR reviewed UWMP or AWMP

•(c)(1)(B) Documented implementation of locally cost effective and technically feasible programs and projects to reduce reliance on the Delta

•(c)(1)(C) Demonstrated a measurable reduction in Delta reliance within their UWMP or AWMP



WR P1 subsection (c)(1)

A supplier is contributing to reduced reliance on the Delta and improved regional self-reliance if they:

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•(c)(1)(A) Have a DWR reviewed UWMP or AWMP?

•(c)(1)(B) Documented implementation of locally cost effective and technically feasible programs and projects to reduce reliance on the Delta?

•(c)(1)(C) Demonstrated a measurable reduction in Delta reliance within their UWMP or AWMP?

Long-term Water Supply Planning

What is an UWMP?

- Required by the Urban Water Management Planning Act
- Urban suppliers providing water for municipal purposes to more than 3,000 customers or serving more than 3,000 acre-feet annually

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- Every five years demonstrating water supply capability in normal, single dry, and multiple dry water years
- DWR required to review and provide a report to the California Legislature



Long-term Water Supply Planning

What is an AWMP?

Required by Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SB X7-7)

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- Agricultural water suppliers serving more than 25,000 irrigated acres (excluding recycled water deliveries)
- Must include reports on the implementation status of specific Efficient Water Management Practices that were required under SB X7-7
- DWR required to review



Technical Approach Development & Coordination

How can UWMPs and AWMPs be used to meet the data needs of a certification process?

 Plans provide data on past, current, and future water supplies, demands, and water use efficiency

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- Required reporting may not be conducive to demonstrating reduced Delta reliance directly
 - Careful consideration of data is needed for each
 Supplier
- Goal was to create optional example approaches for Suppliers to demonstrate a measurable reduction in reliance on Delta water supplies
 - Separate UWMP and AWMP approaches



Technical Approach Development & Coordination

Technical Development Approach

- Collaborative development process with DWR, PWA's, and DSC staff
- DSC staff provided guidance on WR P1 policy
 language and interpretation
- DSC and DWR staff provided review of tables and draft guidance
- State Water Contractor agencies provided additional technical review and input



Technical Approach Development & Coordination

SEPTEMBER 2019

Coordination Meetings with DSC

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AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2020 Draft Guidebooks released and workshops

> DECEMBER 2020 UWMP training on WR P1 calculations

> > DECEMBER 2020/ JANUARY 2021 DCP outreach letters to SWC suppliers

APRIL 2021/JULY 2021 2020 AWMPs due/UWMPs Due



Proposed UWMP Calculation Method

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- 2015 UWMP reporting
- Setting a baseline
- Calculation of water use efficiency
- Calculation of regional self-reliance
- Calculation of reliance on Delta supplies
- Data considerations and documentation



2020 AWMP Guidebook Appendix C

Proposed AWMP Calculation Method

- Available data
- Setting a baseline
- Implementation of Efficient Water Management
 Practices
- Change in delivery of Delta Water
 - Current conditions
 - Future water use including climate change



Initial Review of UWMPs and AWMPs Quantification of reduced Delta Reliance

 Reduction quantified as a volume and % of total demand

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- Documentation of water use efficiency and improved regional self-reliance
- Quantification of increased Regional Self Reliance
 - Quantification of water received through the Delta is infeasible
 - Increase in regional water quantified as a volume and % of total demand
- Documenting Efficient Water Management Practices from AWMPs

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Initial Review of UWMPs and AWMPs







Designations for 238 UWMPs

238 UWMPs Assessed

119 – Regional Self-Reliance

67 – Other

Designations

52 – Reduced Delta Reliance

Other Designations Include:

• SWP water used for recharge

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- No planned SWP use
- Baseline assumptions need
 additional review
- Wholly reliant on SWP
- Wholesaler without own
 demands
- Insufficient data in UWMP
- Doesn't demonstrate reduced
 delta reliance or increased
 regional self-reliance

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Other Designations Include:

- Reduced SWP use from
 historical
- Expected future SWP use less than historical use

3 – Other

Designations

- Reduction in percentage of Delta supplies used for food crops and generation of revenue
- Production per unit of applied water increases

7 – Reduced Delta Reliance



Summary of Findings

 225 UWMPs and 9 AWMPs demonstrate path to reducing reliance on Delta or increasing regional self-reliance

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- Urban water use expected to drop from 2.3 MAF under baseline conditions to 1.95 MAF, a reduction of about 350 TAF or 15%
- Agricultural Water use expected to drop from 514 TAF under baseline conditions to:
 - 414 TAF under 2030 conditions, a 19% reduction
 - 374 TAF under 2070 conditions, a 27% reduction



Conclusions

Potential Future Uses of Assessment Data

- Helps answer one part of WR P1 Has one or more water suppliers failed to adequately reduced reliance?
 - Produced and collected data that previously wasn't available in the format identified in the policy

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- This information supports reporting for DSC performance measures
- Additionally, the data and techniques for analyzing the data are now available to support any future covered action

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Questions?