



Water Storage Investment Program Update

Background

Through the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP), the California Water Commission will invest nearly \$2.6 billion in the public benefits of water storage projects, consistent with the requirements of Proposition 1 (the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014), Chapter 8. The Commission adopted regulations for this program in 2016; twelve applications for funding were submitted in August 2017, which initiated a 9-month technical review and decision-making process. Highlights of the process are as follows:

- In October 2017, the Commission determined that one project was ineligible for funding;
- In February 2018, the Commission issued initial Public Benefit Ratios (PBRs) for the remaining 11 applications;
- In May 2018, following the process laid out in its regulations, the Commission found that three projects were ineligible, and determined the final PBRs for the remaining eight projects;
- In June, the Commission determined the Total Return on Public Investment Scores;
- In July, the Commission determined the Maximum Conditional Eligibility amounts and awarded early funding to three projects to help pay for environmental documents and planning.

At the end of this technical review and scoring process, the Commission conditionally committed to \$2,581,601,000 for eight projects that will create 4.3 million acre-feet of storage capacity. Since then, applicants have been working to complete the Proposition 1 requirements, which include obtaining permits and environmental documents, contracts for the administration of public benefits, and contracts for non-Proposition 1 funding before returning to the Commission for a final award hearing.

At this meeting, Amy Young, the Commission's WSIP Program Manager, will update the Commission on the program schedule going forward, recent activity by the applicants, and the circumstances in which the projects will come before the Commission.

This is an informational item.

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Meeting Date: January 15, 2020
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