



Action Item: Procedure for naming facilities of the State Water Project

Background

The California Water Code gives the Water Commission the power to name or rename State Water Project facilities. (CWC § 161.5) At its July 2011 meeting, Chair Saracino announced that he had received several letters in support of naming a facility of the State Water Project after Justice Ron Robie. At the direction of the Commission, staff has prepared a draft policy for naming facilities of the State Water Project.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the Commission adopt the draft policy.

Attachments

Draft California Water Commission Procedures for Naming State Water Project Facilities Policy

Staff Report on Proposal to Name Thermalito Pumping –Generating Plant

Contact

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California Water Commission Procedures for Naming State Water Project Facilities

The California Water Code gives the Water Commission the power to name or rename State Water Project facilities.

§ 161.5 Naming Facilities

The California Water Commission shall have the power to name all facilities of the State Water Resources Development System owned by the state. The commission may receive testimony from the public on matters involving its responsibilities under this section, and, after public hearing for the purpose of considering all proposed names for such facilities, may, by resolution, express its decision regarding the naming of specific facilities of the State Water Resources Development System.

The Commission will take the following steps when considering naming State Water Project facilities:

1. The Commission or any individual Commissioner may make a proposal to name a State Water Project facility, or the Commission may receive recommendations from the public.
2. Upon receipt of such a request, the Commission will consider the proposal and may direct staff to further research the proposal. This research will include such factors as:
 - Description of the facility including location, function and history.
 - Information about the individual for whom the name change has been proposed, including biographical information, contribution to the State Water Resources Development System, California water policy, or water management in general in California.
 - Input from the Director of the Department of Water Resources; DWR State Water Project Deputy Director and staff; and other DWR programs.
 - Fiscal, operational and implementation impacts for making the name change
 - Identification of community-based interests, other potentially impacted or interested agencies (e.g. local, state, federal, regulatory)
3. Staff will present its findings at a Commission meeting for discussion and consideration.

4. Following review of the staff report, the Commission will hold a public hearing to receive comment and testimony on the proposed name change. The hearing may be part of a regularly-scheduled Commission meeting or may be a separate, publicly-noticed meeting at the Commission's headquarters in Sacramento or in the community in which the facility is located.
5. After receiving public testimony, the Commission will vote on a resolution regarding the naming of the specific facility. If the resolution is approved by a majority of the Commission members, the Commission will direct its staff to inform DWR to proceed with the name change.