

Water Storage Investment Program

Agenda Item #10 Update on Program and Administrative Activities

Technical Work

- Continue to receive concept papers – 1 new concept paper is included in packet.
- Continuing development of Technical Reference Document
- Continuing development of climate change and sea level rise scenarios and modeling package
 - Both activities will be incorporated into the quantification regulations and will become available for public review and comment as part of the Administrative Procedures Act process
- Continuing to develop scoring and evaluation process

Agency Team

- Working with California Department of Fish and Wildlife and State Water Resources Control Board to:
 - Refine process for evaluating Relative Environmental Values
 - Document technical review process for the application evaluation

Regulations

- Six changes to quantification regulations based on comments to simplify and reduce time period to funding
- One pager in your packet describes these changes
- Held briefings with interested stakeholders regarding changes on June 14th and 16th

Removal of Mandatory Pre-application

- Concept papers and staff response functionally replaces pre-application
- Removal of mandatory pre-application saves approximately 5 months

Removal of Formal Peer Review

- Peer review redundant of State agencies and management reviews
- Finding expertise not related to a project will be difficult

Agency Priorities, Tech Review, & Agreements in Principle

- Technical reviews, agency priority review, and Agreements in Principle occur concurrently
- Allows agencies responsible for managing benefits to identify project benefits that meet their priorities early in process
- Save time when agencies enter into contracts regarding benefits

Add Commission Review & Remove 60-day “ask”

- As part of the technical review, applicant’s physical benefit or monetization of benefit may be modified.
- Eligible public benefits after the technical review would be released to public
- If applicants disagree with staff modifications, they can request a Commission review.
- Remove 60-day “ask” currently in draft regulations

Provision for Funding of Environmental Documentation

- Statute allows for funding for completion of environmental documentation (79755(c))
- Aids in moving projects forward
- Technical review, agency priority review, and agreements in principle would minimize risk of sunk program funding

Questions?

Future WSIP Activity

- No change in over all approach
 - Regulation deadline for WSIP
- Working on short term action plan to meet the December 15, 2016 deadline