

Submitted by Harvey
Billig at 3/11/2012
meeting.

Item 5



DESALINATION TASK FORCE
MEMORANDUM

TO: DESALINATION TASK FORCE
FROM: PROGRAM MANAGERS
SUBJECT: STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD GRANT – DRAFT FINAL REPORT
DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2011

RECOMMENDATION: That the scwd² Desalination Task Force review and provide comment on the draft final report required in Proposition 50 Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Agreement No. 07-507-550-0, and accept as final with comments incorporated as appropriate.

BACKGROUND: In April 2008 the Regional Water Management Foundation, a subsidiary of the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County (Grantee), entered into an agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board (State) for a grant amount not to exceed \$12,500,000 for a project titled the “Northern Santa Cruz County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan” (Project). The Project consists of 16 Components complying with the purpose of “protecting communities from drought, protecting and improving water quality, and maintaining and enhancing habitats.” Component 8 of the Project is titled City of Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District (SqCWD) – Underwater Pipeline Survey and Evaluation of Subsurface Intake for Desalination Facility.

In March 2008 the City entered into a Sub-Grantee Agreement with the Grantee for Component 8 in the amount of \$611,000. This funding supported the City and District investigation of the feasibility of both open ocean and sub-seafloor intakes.

DISCUSSION: In October 2008 the City, on behalf of scwd², entered into two agreements to conduct the necessary field work as described below.

- Tenera Environmental: Open Ocean Intake Effects Study (December 2010)
- Ecosystems Management Associates, Inc (EcoM): Offshore Geophysical Survey (August 2010)

Subsequent to this field work, Kennedy/Jenks, the programs Technical Advisor, developed the Intake Technical Feasibility Study (ITFS). This report utilized the valuable data collected by Tenera and EcoM and applied engineering judgment to evaluate the feasibility of several screened-open ocean and sub-seafloor configurations. The ITFS was approved as final by the