

Coachella Valley Integrated Regional Water Management
2014 IRWM Drought Solicitation Implementation Grant Proposal
Program Preferences

Attachment 7 consists of the following items:

- ✓ **Program Preferences.** This attachment contains information regarding how this *Coachella Valley IRWM 2014 IRWM Drought Solicitation Implementation Grant Proposal* meet the preferences described in Section II.F of the 2014 IRWM Drought Guidelines. This attachment also describes how the Proposal assists in addressing the Human Right to Water Policy (§CWC 106.3).

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Program Preferences

The Program Preferences described in Section II.F of the 2014 IRWM Drought Guidelines are those set forth in PRC §75026.(b) and CWC §10544. **Table 7-1** below shows the Program Preferences that will be addressed by each of the projects within this Proposal, and demonstrates the magnitude and breadth to which each Program Preference will be addressed.

Table 7-1: Proposed Projects and Program Preferences

Proposed Projects	1: Regional Projects	2: Integrate Water Management	3: Resolve Water-Related Conflicts	4: Bay-Delta Objectives	5: Benefits DACs	6: Land Use Planning	7: IRWM Plan to Reduce Delta Reliance	8: Statewide Priorities	9: Human Right to Water
Indio Water Authority Recycled Water Project		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Regional Turf Reduction Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Disadvantaged Communities Onsite Plumbing Retrofit Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Degree of Certainty Preferences Will Be Addressed	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
Magnitude and Breadth to Which Preference will be Addressed	Region	Region	Region	State	Region	Region	State	State	Region

This Proposal will either directly or indirectly address seven of the eight Statewide Priorities established by DWR. **Table 7-2** demonstrates which Statewide priorities are addressed by each of the projects included in this Proposal. As part of the project prioritization and ranking process, each project submitted to the Coachella Valley IRWM Project Database for consideration in this Proposal was evaluated for its consistency with Statewide priorities. As such, based on the level of analysis for each project, it is **fully certain** that each of these projects and the Proposal will achieve the Statewide priorities at a regional level (throughout the Region).

Table 7-2: Proposed Projects and Programs with Statewide Priorities

Proposed Projects	Drought Preparedness	Reuse Water More Efficiently	Climate Change Response Actions	Expand Environmental Stewardship	Practice Integrated Flood Management	Protect Surface/ Groundwater Quality	Improve Tribal Water/Natural Resources	Ensure Equitable Distribution of Benefits
Indio Water Authority Recycled Water Project	●	●	●	○		●		○
Regional Turf Reduction Program	●	●	●	○		○	○	○
Disadvantaged Communities Onsite Plumbing Retrofit Program	●	●	●			●	○	●

○ indirectly related; ● directly related



Project-Level Evaluation of Consistency with Program Preferences

Project 1: Indio Water Authority (IWA) Recycled Water Project

Integrate Water Management: The Coachella Valley IRWM Region (Region) was specifically identified by DWR as part of a Region Acceptance Process (RAP) that was submitted in April 2009. As demonstrated throughout this Proposal, the *IWA Recycled Water Project* and all other projects in this Proposal are located within the Coachella Valley and together meet most of the objectives established in the 2014 Coachella Valley IRWM Plan. Therefore, it is **highly certain** that the Proposal effectively integrates water management projects within a hydrologic region specifically identified by DWR on a **regional level**.

Resolve Water-Related Conflicts: Because the IRWM Plan Objectives were established as a result of an open and transparent process where stakeholders were invited to voice their significant issues and conflicts within the Region, by addressing these Objectives (see **Table 1-2**), it is **highly certain** Project 1 resolves significant water-related conflicts within the Region on a **regional level**.

CALFED Bay-Delta Objectives: Project 1 will meet the Water Supply objective of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program by maximizing the use of local water to meet existing and future demands. By providing an additional water source in the Region (recycled water), Project 1 will reduce future increased demands for imported water supplies from the Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta (Bay-Delta). Due to the benefits of Project 1, the Region's current reliance on imported water from the Bay-Delta, and the degree to which Project 1 was analyzed; it is **highly certain** Project 1 will provide water supply benefits at a **statewide level** as described within the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

Address DAC Needs: The IRWM Plan identifies the specific water-related needs of DACs, including water affordability. It is **highly certain** Project 1 addresses water affordability as it will help to reduce groundwater overdraft on a **regional level**, which helps to maintain the affordability of existing water supplies for all residents, including DACs.

Integrate with Land Use Planning: Project 1 includes conveyance of non-potable water in place of groundwater pumping, thereby matching quality to use. Matching quality to use is considered a land use planning feature as water resources of varying qualities are generally matched by land use (i.e. non-potable water is appropriate for irrigation purposes). Further, Project 1 relies upon land use information to identify appropriate direction and sites for water conveyance infrastructure, which is identified based on land use and proximity to existing non-potable water infrastructure. Therefore, it is highly certain Project 1 integrates water management with land use planning on a **regional level**.

Reduce Reliance on Bay-Delta: The Project Review Process (PRP) of the 2014 Coachella Valley IRWM Plan was reviewed by the DWR and found to include requisite information to reduce future dependence on Bay-Delta supplies. Project 1 is included within and was selected based on criteria included in the IRWM Plan, and therefore it is **highly certain** that this project is part of an IRWM Plan that helps reduce future reliance on the Bay-Delta on a **statewide level**.

Statewide Priorities: Each project submitted as part of the Coachella Valley IRWM Plan was evaluated for its consistency with Statewide priorities on a **regional level** as part of the project selection process. Project 1 will directly address four statewide priorities: 1) drought preparedness, 2) reuse water more efficiently, 3) climate change response actions, and 4) protect surface water quality and will indirectly meet two statewide priorities: 1) expand environmental stewardship; and 2) ensure equitable distribution of benefits. Project 1 will address drought preparedness through the provision of recycled water, which will also result in efficient reuse of water and help respond to climate change by providing an additional drought-proof supply to the Region. Project 1 will protect surface water quality by beneficially reusing recycled water and therefore reducing discharges from entering local waterways. Project 1 will indirectly expand environmental stewardship by protecting surface water quality in local waterways that provide habitat and will indirectly ensure equitable distribution of benefits indirectly by helping to maintain the affordability of water for all residents, including DACs.

Human Right to Water: It is **highly certain** Project 1 addresses the Human Right to Water by managing groundwater overdraft to ensure that existing affordable groundwater supplies are available on a **regional level**. Therefore, the project helps to ensure that clean, affordable, and accessible water is available for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes throughout the IRWM Region.



Project 2: Regional Turf Reduction Program

Regional Projects: Project 2 includes rebates for turf replacement for various users throughout the Region. Therefore, it is **highly certain** Project 2 is **regional in nature**, because it will help groundwater users throughout the Region reduce individual water use and reduce groundwater pumping activities that exacerbate overdraft conditions.

Integrate Water Management: The Coachella Valley IRWM Region was specifically identified by DWR as part of the RAP that was submitted in April 2009. As demonstrated throughout this Proposal, the *Regional Turf Reduction Program* and all other projects in this Proposal are located within the Coachella Valley and together meet most of the objectives established in the *2014 Coachella Valley IRWM Plan*. Therefore, it is **highly certain** that the Proposal effectively integrates water management projects within a hydrologic region specifically identified by DWR on a **regional level**.

Resolve Water-Related Conflicts: Because the IRWM Plan Objectives were established as a result of an open and transparent process where stakeholders were invited to voice their significant issues and conflicts within the Region. By addressing these Objectives (see **Table 1-2**), it is **highly certain** that Project 2 resolves significant water-related conflicts on a **regional level**.

CALFED Bay-Delta Objectives: Project 2 will meet the Water Supply objective of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program by maximizing the use of local water (reduce groundwater pumping and managing overdraft) to meet existing and future demand. Due to the local water management components of this program, the Region's current reliance on Bay-Delta water, and the degree to which Project 2 was analyzed, it is **highly certain** Project 2 will provide water supply benefits on a **statewide level** as described within the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

Address DAC Needs: The IRWM Plan identifies the specific water-related needs of DACs, including water affordability, and poor groundwater quality. Project 2 will help to manage groundwater resources by reducing demands, and will therefore help to maintain water affordability and address poor groundwater quality that is caused by irrigation runoff. Therefore, it is **highly certain** Project 2 addresses critical DAC needs on a **regional level**.

Integrate with Land Use Planning: Project 2 relies upon land use information to identify applicable rebate candidates, which are identified based on various types of land uses (golf course, residential, commercial, etc.). Further, the project builds upon a regional land use ordinance implemented by the regional land use authority, the Coachella Valley Association of Governments. Therefore, it is **highly certain** that Project 2 will effectively integrate water management with land use planning on a **regional level**.

Reduce Reliance on Bay-Delta: The PRP of the 2014 Coachella Valley IRWM Plan was reviewed by the DWR and found to include requisite information to reduce future dependence on Bay-Delta supplies. Project 2 is included within and was selected based on criteria included in the IRWM Plan, and therefore it is **highly certain** that it is part of an IRWM Plan that helps reduce future reliance on the Bay-Delta on a **statewide level**.

Statewide Priorities: Project 2 will directly address three statewide priorities: 1) drought preparedness, 2) reuse water more efficiently, and 3) climate change response actions and will indirectly meet four statewide priorities: 1) protect surface water quality, 2) expand environmental stewardship, 3) improve tribal water resources, and 4) ensure equitable distribution of benefits. It is **highly certain** Project 2 addresses drought preparedness through turf replacement that will reduce onsite groundwater pumping to effectively manage overdraft, reuse water more efficiently by reducing water waste, and address climate change response actions by reducing energy required for pumping. The project also indirectly protects surface water quality and expands environmental stewardship by reducing runoff and associated water quality degradation and improves tribal water resources and ensures equitable distribution of benefits by reducing groundwater overdraft throughout the Region, including for Tribes and DACs.

Human Right to Water: It is **highly certain** Project 2 addresses the Human Right to Water by reducing irrigation water demands and managing groundwater overdraft to ensure that supplies are available for drinking water purposes on a **regional level**. Therefore, the project helps to ensure that clean, affordable, and accessible water is available for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes throughout the Region.



Project 3: Regional Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Onsite Plumbing Retrofit Program

Regional Projects: Project 3 includes plumbing retrofits to improve water quality and reduce water waste within DACs throughout the Region. Therefore, it is **highly certain** Project 3 is **regional** in nature by improving drinking water quality and reducing further groundwater overdraft within the Region.

Integrate Water Management: The Region was specifically identified by DWR as part of a RAP that was submitted in April 2009. As demonstrated throughout this Proposal, the *Regional DAC Onsite Plumbing Retrofit Program* and all other projects in this Proposal are located within the Coachella Valley and together meet most of the objectives established in the 2014 Coachella Valley IRWM Plan. Therefore, it is **highly certain** that the Proposal effectively integrates water management projects within a hydrologic region specifically identified by DWR on a **regional level**.

Resolve Water-Related Conflicts: Additionally, because the IRWM Plan Objectives were established as a result of an open and transparent process where stakeholders were invited to voice their significant issues and conflicts within the Region, by addressing these Objectives (see **Table 1-2**), it is **highly certain** Project 3 resolves significant water-related conflicts on a **regional level**.

CALFED Bay-Delta Objectives: Project 3 will meet the Water Supply objective of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program by maximizing the use of local water to meet existing and future demand by reducing water waste. It is **highly certain** Project 3 will provide water supply benefits on a **statewide level** as described within the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.

Address DAC Needs: The IRWM Plan identifies the specific water-related needs of DACs, including water affordability and poor groundwater quality. Further, Project 3 was developed based on the outcomes of a separate DAC Outreach Program that identified DAC issues in the Region. It is **highly certain** Project 3 addresses water affordability and poor groundwater quality on a **regional level** by rehabilitating water plumbing that is currently wasting and contaminating water in DACs.

Integrate with Land Use Planning: It is **highly certain** that this program effectively integrates water management with land use planning, because the project will utilize land use information to identify applicable rebate candidates, which are identified based on demographic data. Therefore, it is **highly certain** that this project will integrate water management and land use planning on a **regional level**.

Reduce Reliance on Bay-Delta: The PRP of the 2014 Coachella Valley IRWM Plan was reviewed by DWR and found to include requisite information to reduce future dependence on Bay-Delta supplies. Project 3 is included in the 2014 Coachella Valley IRWM Plan and therefore it is **highly certain** Project 3 is part of an IRWM Plan that helps reduce reliance on the Bay-Delta on a **statewide level**.

Statewide Priorities: Each project submitted as part of the Coachella Valley IRWM Plan was evaluated for its consistency with Statewide priorities on a **regional level** as part of the project selection process. Project 3 will directly address five statewide priorities: 1) drought preparedness, 2) reuse water more efficiently, 3) climate change response actions, 4) protect groundwater quality, and 5) ensure equitable distribution of benefits and will indirectly meet one statewide priorities: 1) improve tribal water resources. Project 3 will address drought preparedness, reuse water more efficiently, and address climate change response actions by reducing water waste, thereby helping to mitigate overdraft, increasing the efficiency of water use, and addressing climate change by reducing energy from reduced groundwater pumping. The project will protect groundwater quality by repairing leaking onsite systems that could potentially leak contaminants into local groundwater supplies. The project will ensure equitable distribution of benefits by implementing a multi-benefit project that is directed towards meeting the needs of affected DACs. Project 3 also indirectly improves tribal water resources because there are Tribal Nations within the Region that are designated as DACs and are eligible to receive program rebates.

Human Right to Water: It is **highly certain** Project 3 addresses the Human Right to Water on a **regional level**. By rehabilitating distribution systems for disadvantaged residents in mobile home parks, Project 3 will increase accessibility to clean drinking water for daily use where the water is currently unsafe for human consumption by removing a potential source of contamination (leaking systems). The project also increases affordability of water by offering low-cost or no-cost rebates to decrease water waste, which will help DACs reduce monthly water bills that can be prohibitively expensive.



Human Right to Water

The Coachella Valley IRWM Region faces issues related to the Human Right to Water Policy. As documented extensively through the *Coachella Valley Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Outreach Program* (DAC Outreach Program), which was an outreach program funded through a separate grant from DWR, accessibility to safe, clean, and affordable water that is adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes, is a substantial concern of DACs in the Region. The DAC Outreach Program conducted a survey of local DACs to refine DAC issues in an effort to define potential projects that could be implemented to resolve critical water quality or water supply concerns of the Region's DACs. Through this survey, residents consistently raised three concerns: safe and reliable water supply, adequate wastewater infrastructure, and flood issues. Within the eastern Coachella Valley, the majority of which is not included within the service areas of the CVRWMP agencies, many DACs do not have access to municipal water or wastewater services. These DACs often rely upon onsite drinking water systems that are not permitted or up to code, and therefore may be subject to breaks, leaks, and other malfunctions. Despite being aware of water quality issues within their onsite supplies, many DACs also reported drinking from these water sources, indicating that there are not many other available drinking water options.

Several outcomes took place as a result of the DAC Outreach Program, one of which was development of the *Regional DAC Onsite Plumbing Retrofit Project*. This project and a technical memorandum for the project were developed through the Coachella Valley IRWM Program to formalize a project that could address pressing onsite DAC water needs. The result of these efforts is a project that will provide rebates to DACs to upgrade onsite systems to conserve water (through installing water-efficient hardware) and upgrade onsite distribution systems that may be structurally compromised and therefore contributing to water quality contamination within drinking water. The project will also include support from local non-profit organizations that are instrumental in conducting outreach and technical support to DACs as they are seen as trusted members of the community and can help to ensure that onsite upgrades installed with the rebates are completed properly and in a manner that addresses critical water supply needs and help address issues related to the Human Right to Water Policy.