



Stakeholders

General Purpose Agencies

City of Camarillo
City of Fillmore
City of Ojai
City of Oxnard
City of Port Hueneme
City of Santa Paula
City of Simi Valley
City of Thousand Oaks
City of Ventura
Ventura County Executive Office
Ventura County General Services Agency
Ventura County Resource Management Agency

Water Suppliers/Wastewater Management/ Special Districts

Calleguas Municipal Water District
Camarillo Sanitary District
Camrosa Water District
Casitas Municipal Water District
Fillmore Irrigation Company
Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
Golden State Water Company
Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
Ojai Valley Sanitary District
Ojai Valley Water Conservation District
Pleasant Valley County Water District
Saticoy Sanitary District
Triunfo Sanitation District
United Water Conservation District
Ventura County Watershed Protection District
Ventura County Waterworks Districts
Ventura Regional Sanitation District
Zone Mutual Water Company

Business Organizations

Building Industry Association
Farm Bureau of Ventura County
Ventura County Economic Development
Association

Recreational and Open Space Entities

California Department of Parks and Recreation
Conejo Recreation and Park District
Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
Santa Monica Mountains Recreation &
Conservation Authority

Regulatory Agencies

California Coastal Commission
California Department of Fish and Game
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Other Agencies/Organizations

Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County
California Coastal Conservancy
California Department of Transportation
California Department of Water Resources
California Native Plant Society
California Wildlife Conservation Board
Environmental Defense Center
Friends of the Santa Clara River
Hansen Trust
Matilija Coalition
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Nature Conservancy
Ojai Valley Land Conservancy
Point Mugu Naval Base
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Surfrider Foundation
Trust for Public Land
U.S. Forest Service
Ventura County Resource Conservation District
Ventura Hillside Conservancy
Wetlands Recovery Project

April 22, 2010

Joe Yun, Staff Environmental Scientist
Chief, IRWM Planning Grant Section

Dear Mr. Yun:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Guidelines and PSPs for Proposition 84 and 1E IRWM Grant Programs. The Guidelines and PSPs are well written and comprehensive. We recognize that preparation of these documents represents a significant effort and that DWR is committed to getting these funds out as quickly as possible.

We have a few specific comments and questions regarding the Planning and Implementation Grants, as follows:

Planning Grant

Comments:

- We believe the cost share (match) is too high. We recommend a 25% match to encourage more widespread participation in IRWM planning.
- The cap on grants should be lower than \$1 million – to allow more agencies to receive planning grants. The \$500,000 limit per region set in Prop. 50 is more reasonable.
- The proposed schedule for the Planning Grant application as it relates to the Implementation Grant application is unrealistic. We would like to request at least six weeks for preparation of the Planning Grant application.

Questions:

- Regarding the funding match, if a region wants to provide a match that is a combination of direct funding contributions and in-kind services, what specific expenditures would qualify for an in-kind match? Does agency over-head or indirect costs count? Please clarify this. Please also clarify what counts as “donated services.” Does this mean the value of time and benefits of those participating in the stakeholder process?
- Regarding eligible project types for the Planning Grant – can you specify additional types of studies and focused analysis that would qualify, in addition to those listed? We assume this refers to studies that contribute directly to the development of elements of the plan itself.
- Will preference be given to applications for Planning Grants that exceed the funding match required?
- Is it possible for one region to apply for, and receive, two planning grants as long as the total of the two grants does not exceed the cap?

IMPLEMENTATION GRANT

Comments:

- The proposed schedule for the Implementation Grant application as it relates to the Planning Grant application is unrealistic. We strongly urge you to allow at least 14-16 weeks for preparation of the Implementation Grant application.
- Based on our experience with Proposition 50, the economic analysis required in the Implementation Grant PSP is very technical and challenging, as well as time consuming. We respectfully request technical assistance from DWR, in the form of a workshop and/or electronic tools to guide regions in this part of the application process.
- We would like to see a second round of Implementation Grants within 6 months to a year of the first round, rather than waiting for two years for the next round.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Hughes".

Sue Hughes
Chair