

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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January 25, 2013

Mr. Don Ridenhour
General Manager
Sunnyslope County Water District
3570 Airline Highway
Hollister, California 95023

Dear Mr. Ridenhour:

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has reviewed the 2010 Hollister Urban Area Regional Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), submitted by the San Benito County Water District, Sunnyslope County Water District, and City of Hollister, and received by DWR on July 29, 2011. The California Water Code (CWC) directs DWR to report to the legislature once every five years on the status of submitted plans. In meeting this legislative reporting requirement, DWR reviews all submitted plans.

DWR's review of the 2010 Hollister Urban Area Regional Plan has found that the Plan has addressed the overall requirements of the CWC. The calculations for baseline water use did not completely follow the guidance provided by DWR in Methodologies for Calculating Baseline and Compliance Urban Per Capita Water Use. However, communications between DWR, the water agencies, and Todd Engineers, see attachment, demonstrated that the resulting difference in baseline water use was small and did not require an amendment to the Plan.

DWR recommends that when updating this plan in 2015, the agencies:

- Submit only regional gross water use, baselines, and targets, omitting individual supplier baselines and targets, because water deliveries from the Lessalt Water Treatment Plant to the individual retail agencies were not metered during the baseline period.
- Calculate gross water using water production data from groundwater wells and delivered surface water.
- For San Benito County Water District address Demand Management Measure (DMM) D, Metering with Commodity Rates. Describe why metering deliveries to the retailers is not cost effective, or provide a timeline and budget for planned implementation of this DMM for the wholesaler.

By including this data in future plans, the Hollister Urban Area's Regional Plan will better meet the requirements of the Water Code Sections 10608.20 and 10631 (f) and (g).

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DWR's review of plans is limited to assessing whether suppliers have addressed the required legislative elements. In its review DWR does not evaluate or analyze the supplier's UWMP data, projections, or water management strategies. This letter is simply meant to acknowledge that the Hollister Urban Area Regional Plan has addressed these requirements. The results of the review will also be provided to DWR's Financial Assistance Branch.

If you have any questions regarding the review of the plan or urban water management planning, please do not hesitate to email or call.

Sincerely,



Peter Brostrom
UWMP Program Manager
brostrom@water.ca.gov
(916) 651-7034

Attachment

cc: Gwen Huff
DWR South Central Regional Office

Luis Avila
DWR South Central Regional Office

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January 8, 2013

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

To: Jeff Cattaneo, San Benito County Water District

From: Iris Priestaf, Chad Taylor, and Maureen Reilly, Todd Engineers

Re: Revised Addendum to the 2010 Hollister Area Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP)

Introduction

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has reviewed the 2010 Hollister Area Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and the staff member in charge of the review, Gwen Huff, has requested a specific revision of gross water use, baselines per capita daily use, and the per capita demand targets. In the UWMP, the Hollister Urban Area regional gross water use, baselines, and targets were calculated for Hollister and Sunnyslope separately and then the region's goals were presented as a weighted average of the two. However, DWR indicates that because the portion of Lessalt Water Treatment Plant that is delivered to Hollister and Sunnyslope was not monitored discretely for each service area, we cannot look at the two entities as separate providers but must combine their gross water use as a regional total.

Combining baseline water use

Gross water use includes all water into the system:

- groundwater-monitored at the point of production
- CVP imports to Lessalt treatment plant – total inflow metered, but Hollister and Sunnyslope individual portions are not
- unaccounted for water – losses, etc.

Total HUA water use in 2005 totaled 6.14 MGD or 6,871 AFY; total HUA water deliveries in 2005 totaled 6,791 AFY (UWMP Table 3-1). The difference between the gross water use (used in baseline calculations) and the water deliveries was 100 AFY of unaccounted for water, including system losses and leaks.

Revisions to the baseline water use and water use targets

Combining Hollister and Sunnyslope values and calculating the gross water use, baselines, and targets as a region will reduce the 10-year baseline by four gallons per person per day (gpcd) to 157 gpcd. Table 1 shows the baseline selected for the regional alliance and Table 2 shows the baseline period calculations for the Hollister Urban Area. The original UWMP reported a 10-year baseline of 161 gpcd (shown in Table 3); different baseline periods were selected for each Hollister and Sunnyslope to achieve the most favorable baseline. The 5-year range baseline remains the same as in the UWMP, because the same years were selected for Hollister and Sunnyslope (Table 4). Therefore, the minimum water use requirements remain the same, as they are based on the 5-year baseline.

The water demand targets are calculated as a percentage of baseline; purveyors must achieve 10 percent of the baseline water use by 2015 and 20 percent by 2020. The new targets are shown in Table 5 and the targets reported in the UWMP are shown in Table 6. The targets are reduced by 3.6 gpcd and 3.2 gpcd for 2015 and 2020 respectively.