

STPUD Commercial/Industrial Irrigation Water Use Efficiency Project

Work Plan

Description of the project: The STPUD Irrigation Water Use Efficiency Project is the implementation of one of the water conservation best management practices as proposed by the California Urban Water Conservation Council, specifically landscaping turf removal. The program proposed consists of turf removal for commercial/institutional sites within the service area of South Tahoe Public Utility District (see attached service area map). The commercial/industrial sites were targeted for this proposal as they generally have larger amounts of turf landscaping than do residential sites. With the proposed grant funding request of \$375,000 for project implementation, STPUD plans on replacing 125,000 square feet of existing turf with native, water resistant landscaping. The turf removal program will pay \$3.00 per square foot of turf removal, which generally is approximately 50% of the landscaping costs. This incentive is provided to encourage high water users to reduce their irrigation usage. The result of these water savings are significant energy costs savings related to water production and the resultant greenhouse gas reduction.

Project Proponent: South Tahoe PUD is the implementing organization.

Work Plan Tasks

Task 1: Direct Project Administration and Reporting:

Task 1 includes project administration, reporting and labor compliance.

1.a Administration and Reporting: STPUD will be acting as the lead agency for this water efficiency. The first administrative milestone will be an executed grant agreement between DWR and STPUD. Quarterly invoices and project reports will be submitted. Project reporting includes preparation and timely submittal of grant deliverables, including quarterly progress reports, and a final report upon completion of the Project.

Task A.1 deliverables: executed grant agreement, quarterly invoices, quarterly progress reports and a final Project report.

1.b Labor Compliance Program: The STPUD will ensure all construction work financed in any part by Proposition 84 partners adheres to a labor compliance program, pursuant to California Labor Code (CLC) 1771.5(b). This item has been identified as an ongoing task in the Project schedule (Attachment 5) throughout the implementation/construction process.

Task 2: Easements

No easements are required for implementation of this project.

Task 3: Project Evaluation/Design/Engineering

Task 3.a Planning and Design: The Commercial/Industrial Irrigation Water Efficiency Project is based on planning and design of Best Management Practices of the California Urban Water Conservation Council, specifically turf removal. Planning and design of the program has been 100% completed and includes a variety of outreach materials, including brochures, website information, applications for participation in the program, examples of final site plans, and also

STPUD Commercial/Industrial Irrigation Water Use Efficiency Project

Work Plan

offers consultation on vegetation and irrigation efficiency by Tahoe Resource Conservation District staff. The STPUD currently has a waiting list for participation in the program and implementation is dependent upon available funding.

Task 3.a deliverables: Informational brochures on the water conservation program; applications for participation in the program; and data management system to track water savings.

Task 4: Environmental Compliance/Mitigation/Enhancement

Task 4.a Environmental Documentation: The Project has been determined to be CEQA exempt and an NOE has been filed for this project so this task is 100% complete.

Task 4.a deliverable: CEQA notice of determination filed with El Dorado County and the State Clearinghouse.

Task 5: Permitting

There are no items under this task as all implementation is done on private property by owner.

Task 6: Proposal Monitoring Plan

The STPUD will develop a monitoring plan to verify the water and energy savings and GHG reduction.

Task 6.a deliverable: Proposal Monitoring Plan.

Task 7. Construction/Implementation

Commercial and industrial irrigation water efficiency program in the form of the implementation of a turf buy back program will be implemented on private commercial/industrial sites at an estimated 125,000 sq. feet of turf removal for \$3.00 per square foot.

Task 7.a Initial contact with participants : Participants interested in the program are sent, or can download from the STPUD website(www.stpud.us) the application packet for submission to the waiting list. STPUD water conservation staff will contact participants on a first-come, first served basis for an initial site visit and to answer any questions about the program.

Task 7.b On-Site STPUD Staff landscaping evaluation: A site visit by STPUD staff is conducted to measure, photograph and document the existing landscaping. Referrals to Tahoe Resource Conservation District staff are also available for vegetation and irrigation efficiency consults if the participant desires. Participants may do the work themselves or hire a landscaper trained in low-impact, native landscaping design. STPUD offers semi-annual training sessions for all interested landscapers.

STPUD Commercial/Industrial Irrigation Water Use Efficiency Project

Work Plan

Task 7.c Participant landscaping plan, turf removal: Participants are required to have the complete turf-removal and new landscaping in place by October 15 of the season they have been approved. Seasons generally run from May 1 to October 15 due to weather restrictions.

Task 7.d Final site evaluation: Participants notify STPUD staff when the landscaping plan is complete and staff returns to measure, photograph and document that new landscaping meets program guidelines. Participants are also required to submit a drawing of the final landscaping site plan. Due to Tahoe Regional Planning Agency requirements, landscaping must cover 50% of site for erosion control benefits on the property and to prevent storm water, irrigation water runoff into Lake Tahoe.

Task 7.e Rebate approval, issuance: When site passes final inspection by STPUD staff, rebates are issued. Rebates are \$3.00 per square foot of turf removed. Sites are continually monitored after turf buy-back program participation for water savings data. (See Task 6: Proposal Monitoring above).

Task 7 deliverables: Completed participant applications and final site plan; pre-and post-pictures of landscaping; data management reports of water savings.