

**California Water Plan Update 2009**  
**Notes from Recycled Municipal Water Management Strategy Workshop**  
**July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Please submit written comments to [cwpc@water.ca.gov](mailto:cwpc@water.ca.gov) by August 11, 2008

**I. Recycled Water Use in California**

- *Clarify* figure 3, page 4: The figure does not make it obvious that it depicts two separate cities. Add context and label cities
- *Address* issue of double counting water quality and water supply
- *Add* an example box of successful projects and case studies
  - Orange County Water District mentioned as an example; water quality concern was a driving force, but it became a regional water supply
- *Add* cost estimates broken down by hydrologic region
- *Data* - Water Reuse Foundation-funded survey is potential data source
- *Address* the progress on recommendations of the 2003 Water Recycling Task Force. Did its recommendations lead to the start up of new programs? New technology?
  - *Estimate progress* the number of programs that have come online since the 2005 Water Plan Update and the Water Recycling Task Force

**II. Potential Benefits of Water Recycling**

- *Clarify* Page 5, fourth paragraph, last sentence- The distinction is not clear between reverse osmosis and desalination. Use term “brackish” and “ocean” desalination to be consistent with Desalination Resource Management Strategy narrative
- *Add links/nexus* to the Desalination, and Matching Water Quality to Use strategies

**III. Potential Costs of Water Recycling**

- *Draw attention* to the purple pipe regulatory barrier which will add 1.1 billion in costs because recycled water can not pass through the same pipes as drinking water. Add context for the average reader to understand this limitation.
- Suggestion to mention a lack of local ordinances that requires infrastructure upgrade
- *Clarification needed* on issue of new water versus appropriate level of treatment? Confusion on whether recycled water is considered new water supply
  - The Water Plan counts water that meets two uses before discharge is considered 2x supply
  - *Contradiction in text*- top of page 5 first sentence contradicts this idea of recycled water as new water supply
  - **ACTION**: Author check definition of supply

#### IV. Major Issues Facing More Recycled Water Use

##### a. Affordability

- *Point out-* Water recycling on the smaller scale is not cost effective, meaning that this will only be cost effective on the state and regional level and not necessarily on the county and city level.

##### b. Water Quality

- *Mention* that level of treatment has energy implications

##### c. Public Acceptance

- *Ties in to recommendation #5*, Some thought was too general, but may be seen as specific for Water Reuse agencies
  1. **ACTION:** Paul Klein to offer authors text
- *Mention* public sentiment on the issue of water recycling, and how the public typically feels about this process
- *Add Recommendations* on how to deal with public opposition to recycling- offer the experiences of past oppositions
- If there are public concerns about using recycled municipal water for groundwater recharge, it should be flagged as an issue and have recommendations for how to address it

##### d. Potential Impacts

- (Lack of) Data seems to be a major issue concerning recycled municipal water as a strategy. Suggestion to elevate it as a major issue, and offer recommendations on how to address data gap.

#### V. Recommendations to Increase Recycled Water Use

- *Data*
  - Suggestion to include cost and benefits by region and by project
  - Recommendation needed on how to address shortage of data
- *Extend* trends time horizon from 2030 to 2050 to be consistent with Water Plan Update 2009
  - **ACTION:** Author look to WETCAT, they may have this data available coming out of the AB 32 process
- *Tie in with IRWM* process and update recommendations as to alert people to recycling programs funding which have regional benefits such as better water management
  - *Example-* From Elizabeth Patterson City of Benicia: Target refineries and GHG reductions
- *Add recommendation or elaborate on* issue of using recycled municipal water groundwater recharge
- *Suggested language change* “wastewater” to “used water”

- *Integrate* Box 1 into the text of the document
  - Recommendation #5 is too vague without referencing the context of Box 1
- *Add clarifying text boxes* at the end:
  - Definitions and abbreviations box
  - Other related Resource Management Strategies box

## **Participants**

### **In Room:**

Sara Agahi, San Diego County  
 Evon Chambers, PCL  
 Sharif Choudhury, CEC  
 Rebecca Kanegawa, MWH  
 Paul Klein, Water Reuse Association  
 Bob Languell, SWRCB  
 Jarrod Ramsey-Lewis, SWRCB  
 Betty Yee, Central Valley RWQCB

### **DWR and CCP:**

Lisa Beutler, CCP  
 Charlotte Chorneau, CCP  
 Megan Fidell, DWR  
 Kamyar Guivetchi, DWR  
 Ray Hoagland, DWR  
 Jennifer Kofoid, DWR  
 Lew Moeller, DWR  
 Elizabeth Patterson, DWR  
 David Sumi, CCP

### **On Phone:**

Kevin Kashi, City of Oakland  
 Melanie Powers  
 Jack Sullivan, League of Women Voters  
 Jeff Stone  
 Terry Stubbings  
 Christine, NRDC