



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 5, 2010

TO: Citizens' Water Advisory Committee

FROM: John Kmiec
Regulatory Compliance Supervisor
Water Quality & Operations

SUBJECT: Update on Governor Brewer's Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability

What is it? In August 2009, Governor Brewer announced that a group would be formed to look at how statewide water sustainability could be improved, with direct reference to improved recycled water and conservation efforts. The group would be chaired by the Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources, and the Chairman of the Arizona Corporate Commission.

Purpose: To promote and advance statewide sustainability of water by increasing the reuse, recycling, and conservation of water in the State of Arizona in an effective (protective and results-oriented), efficient (cost effective, economical) and equitable (affordable, fair) manner.

Goals: The Panel will provide recommendations to the Executive on statute, rule, and policy changes that, by the year 2020 in Arizona, will significantly:

1. Increase the volume of reclaimed water reused for beneficial purposes in place of raw or potable water.
2. Advance water conservation, increase the efficiency of water use by existing users, and increase the use of recycled water for beneficial purposes in place of raw or potable water.
3. Reduce the amount of energy needed to produce, deliver, treat, reclaim and recycle water by the municipal, industrial, and agricultural sectors.
4. Reduce the amount of water required to produce and provide energy by Arizona power generators.

Chairs:

Ben Grumbles, Director, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

Herb Guenther, Director, Arizona Department of Water Resources

Kristin Mayes, Chairman, Arizona Corporate Commission

Current Status: Since creation in December 2009, the panel has divided into five Working groups: **Public Perception, Economics, Regulatory/Permitting, Conservation, and Infrastructure.** The status of each of these groups and Tucson Water participation is described on the next page.

Working Groups:

Public Perception – Chaired by Kathy Chavez (Pima County) and Karen Dotson (Tucson Water). Working group has met three times. Focusing on common terminology and challenges to reclaimed water branding with respect to unregulated contaminants. Last group meeting was April 23, 2010.

Economics – Chaired by David Snider (Pinal County). Working group progressing slowly. Group is planning to examine what types of incentive programs or opportunities are available for reclaimed water funding, e.g., WIFA, Federal Assistance, other. Teresa Bourne, Barbara Dildine, and Pat Eisenberg are representing Tucson Water. Last group meeting was April 26, 2010.

Infrastructure – Chaired by Guy Carpenter (Carollo). Working group has recently subdivided into two sub groups: Distribution Infrastructure and On-site Infrastructure. Tucson Water staff Scott Schladweiler, Mark Titus, and Dean Trammel are participating working group members. Scott is lead in the Distribution Infrastructure subgroup and Mark is the lead in the On-site subgroup. Mark is playing a pivotal role in that group since Tucson Water is the statewide leading expert on how to properly setup and deliver non-potable water to sites. This group's last meeting was April 21, 2010.

Conservation – Chaired by Steve Olsen (AMWUA). Working group progressing slowly. Still having presentations on various end users including energy, agriculture, and municipal conservation. John Kmiec, with various other Tucson Water staff, is keeping tabs on progress of committee. Next meeting is on Municipal Conservation programs. Tucson Water staff Fernando Molina and Cecilio Flores are to attend the next meeting on May 6, 2010.

Regulatory/Permitting – Chaired by Ron Doba (Black & Veatch). This group is near completion of draft white paper. This Working group subdivided into three subgroups: Permitting and BADCT (Best Available Demonstrated Control Technology), Reclaimed Water Quality Standards, and Graywater Issues. Group was able to advance quickly because participation is primarily with regulatory experts and ADEQ officials. John Kmiec is primary Tucson Water representative and rep for the water quality subgroup. Tucson Water staff Wally Wilson and Dan Stanton are contributing to the Permitting and BADCT subgroup. John is keeping tabs on the Graywater group. Next Meetings are May 12 (graywater), May 13 (water quality), and May 26 (Working Group).

Current status of Blue Ribbon Panel:

Working groups to have draft White Papers by end of June 2010.

Final White Paper Report from Blue Ribbon Panel to occur by end of November 2010.

Attached is the proposed schedule

There is current discussion that these timeframes may get changed at the next Blue Ribbon Panel meeting on May 7, 2010.

To keep track of information about the Blue Ribbon Panel, go to:

<http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/waterManagement/BlueRibbonPanel.htm>

Attachment: Blue Ribbon Panel Schedule

Proposed Blue Ribbon Panel Schedule

NEXT MEETING – Friday, March 5, 2010, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, location to be determined

Meeting Frequency: Monthly Meetings – 1st Friday of each month @10:00 am
(As the process moves along – may need additional meetings during Phase IV)

Phase I – Education: (January 2010 – March 2010)

Focus is to provide background information to the Panel relevant to the identified goals and sufficient to begin discussions in the working groups, which will begin holding meetings.

- Reclaimed and Recycled Water Use in Arizona (February and March)
- Water Conservation (January and February)
- Water/Energy Nexus (March)

Phase II – Issue Identification (February 2010 – May 2010)

- The Executive will name chairpersons of working groups at the February 5 Panel meeting; working group chairs will select co-chairs from interested parties.
- Working group chairs begin meetings with interested parties.
- Panel and working groups identify issues that need to be addressed, determine additional presentations as needed, and establish focal areas and priorities for further discussion.
- Beginning in April, working group chairs begin reporting back on progress at Panel meetings

Phase III – Concept Development (May 2010 – July 2010)

- Working groups begin developing potential solutions and categorizing according to whether policy, rule, or statutory changes are needed.
- As needed, working groups develop white papers and conceptual resolutions on focal areas and priorities
- ***Interim Report to Panel at June 2010 meeting: a compilation of each working progress on identified issues, priorities, and potential solutions***

Phase IV – Resolution Development (July 2010 – November 2010)

- Develop more detailed resolutions of priority issues
- Identify recommendations for policy, rules or Legislation, as necessary
- Panel issues ***Final Report November 2010***