

State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
February 10, 2016

- ITEM: 9
- SUBJECT: Update on Implementation of the Practical Vision (David Gibson)
- PURPOSE: To brief the board members on accomplishments and lessons learned from implementing the Practical Vision in 2015, on the Practical Vision Operational Plan for 2016, and to get feedback on regional priorities and goals for 2016.
- RECOMMENDATION(S): This is an informational item. There is no recommendation.
- KEY ISSUES: Identifies Practical Vision priorities for 2016;
Identifies the priorities for the core regulatory programs for FY16-17;
Provides an opportunity to solicit public perspective and Board support and direction on the priorities.
- PRACTICAL VISION: This item provides a progress report on the second year of implementing the Practical Vision. This item also demonstrates the San Diego Water Board values of communication and transparency by reporting in an open meeting our 2015 accomplishments, our regional priorities and goals for 2016, and the budget that supports our work. Through the Practical Vision, the Board and its staff exercise its leadership and stewardship values both locally and statewide.
- DISCUSSION: This item is an opportunity to provide Board members and the public with a more comprehensive report on the San Diego Water Board's accomplishments and to give Board members an opportunity to provide early input and direction on regional priorities and goals for 2016.

December 2015 saw the end of our second full calendar year of implementing the San Diego Water Board's 7-year strategic plan, the Practical Vision. The Practical Vision is a tool for culture change at the San Diego Water Board; the means to achieve healthy waters through a collaborative,

outcome-based approach that relies on the latest science, prioritization of issues and actions, and prudent use of authorities in service to the people of California.

Annually, the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards report their principal accomplishments to the State Water Board. The State Water Accomplishments Report for 2015 is still under development. Our regional accomplishments are provided in Supporting Document 1.

For 2015, the second year of our 7-year strategy, we created a Practical Vision Operations Plan. In it, we carried forward our unfinished 2014 projects, added the next set of projects, identified staffing, resources, tasks, and milestones for each project, and tracked our progress through the year. In particular, we merged certain of our Core Regulatory workload (permit renewals, inspections, etc.) with the Practical Vision projects to improve management of the casework while also achieving the Practical Vision goals. In the interests of transparency and context, we are providing the San Diego Water Board's budget allocated by the State Board and discuss how it supports our Practical Vision and Core Regulatory work (Supporting Document 2).

Thirty five projects were included in the 2015 Practical Vision Operations Plan. The Practical Vision projects from 2015 that I will highlight in my oral briefing are:

- Completion of the Strategy for a Healthy San Diego Bay;
- The Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team Five-Year Action Plan and approval of Treaty Minute 320;
- The establishment of the San Diego Water Board's approach for the Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems (wetlands and stream systems) in the San Diego Region;
- Adoption of an Amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9)* to Change the Nitrate Water Quality Objective for Ground Water and to Incorporate the Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Policy.

During the first two years of implementing a formal Practical Vision Operations Plan, we found we need to continue to improve incorporation of next fiscal year's performances measures used in the California Water Boards' Annual Performance Report in our planning and tracking. The

Performance Report for FY14-15 can be found at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/about_us/performance_report_1415/targets/.

The 2016 Operational Plan takes this into account by including programmatic work that is linked to performance targets and other workplan commitments made to the State Water Board that aren't specifically called out in the Practical Vision. This has required an extra degree of prioritizing, planning, and budgeting on the part of your managers to craft the Practical Vision Operations Plan and we are structuring this effort so to enhance the Practical Vision and function as force multipliers rather than a "to-do" list. The key Practical Vision Operations Plan projects for 2016 includes 42 projects. Some of the key projects I will present in this item are:

- San Diego Bay Comprehensive Monitoring and Assessment Program
- Santa Margarita Estuary TMDL
- Biological Objectives
- REC-1 Basin Planning Project
- Water Quality Assessment - Integrated Report
- Chollas Creek Water Effects Ratio Basin Plan Amendment
- Expansion of Recycled Water Production and Purveyance
- Statewide Priority Setting Effort
- Environmental Justice and Public Outreach Strategy
- Vapor Intrusion Risk Management at Clean Up Sites

LEGAL CONCERNS: None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS 1. Practical Vision and Program Accomplishments for 2015
 2. San Diego Water Board Budget for FY15-16.
These documents will be provided in the second mail out.

PUBLIC NOTICE: This item was publicly noticed in the Meeting Notice and Agenda for the February 10, 2016 meeting.