

State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
FEBRUARY 8, 2017

ITEM: 7

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 2016, on the Practical Vision Operational Plan for 2017, and to get feedback on regional priorities and goals for 2017.

RECOMMENDATION(S): Adoption of Resolution No. R9-2017-0029 is recommended.

KEY ISSUES: Identifies significant accomplishments from 2016 (Supporting Document No. 1);

Identifies Practical Vision projects and major Core Regulatory Program projects for 2017 (Attachment 1 to Supporting Document No.2);

Provides an opportunity for the Board to formally endorse the allocation of staff resources to address the Practical Vision and Core Regulatory Program Projects (Supporting Document No. 2).

PRACTICAL VISION: This item provides a progress report on the third 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 2016 accomplishments, our regional priorities and goals for 2017, 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 2017.

December 2016 saw the end of our third 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 Board Accomplishments Report for 2016 is still under development. Our regional accomplishments are provided in Supporting Document 1.

For 2016, the third year of our 7-year strategy, we created a Practical Vision Operations Plan. In it, we carried forward our unfinished 2015 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 (Attachment 1 to Supporting Document 2).

Forty two projects were included in the 2016 Practical Vision Operations Plan. The Practical Vision projects from 2016 that I will highlight in my oral briefing are:

- Adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements for irrigated lands
- Bioaccumulation Report
- Development of Water Body Fact Sheets
- Restoration of the Mission Valley Aquifer
- Biological Objectives

During the first three 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 2017 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 Practical Vision Operations Plan for 2017 includes 49 projects. Some of the key projects I will present in this item are:

- Development of Biological Objectives
- Implementation of Key Use and Key Areas
- Expansion of Recycled Water Production and Purveyance
- Outreach
- Cross Training Project

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Practical Vision and Program Accomplishments for 2016
2. San Diego Water Board Budget for FY16-17.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was publicly noticed in the Meeting Notice and Agenda for the February 8, 2017 meeting.