

From: Dorian Fougères [fougeres@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2008 10:53 AM
To: Breitenbach, Rick@CALFED; rsoehren@water.ca.gov; Barbara Evoy
Subject: Fwd: Comments on 20x2020 planning

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From: <Eric.Cartwright@acwd.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 12, 2008 at 10:43 AM
Subject: Comments on 20x2020 planning
To: 2020comments@ccp.csus.edu
Cc: Jennifer Hadra <cuwa@sbcglobal.net>, Elaine Archibald <awconsult@aol.com>, Stephanie.Nevins@acwd.com

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the efforts made to date on developing a plan to achieve a 20% state-wide reduction in per capita water use by the year 2020 ("2020 Program").

Alameda County Water District (ACWD) has reviewed the information developed to date, and understands that as proposed for the 2020 Program, each water agency's water per capita water use will be reviewed to determine if the water use is meeting the proposed target level needed to achieve the 20% statewide reduction. We also understand that in evaluating water use, the 2020 Program will be providing "credit" for the use of recycled water by excluding recycled water use from the per capita water use calculation. While we support this concept of giving credit for the use of recycled water, we believe that this concept should be expanded to other water projects that, like recycled water, provide a new, nontraditional source of supply and improve the state's overall water use efficiency.

An example of this type of project is ACWD's Newark Brackish Groundwater Desalination Facility. For over thirty years, ACWD has been reclaiming the local groundwater basin that had previously been impacted by seawater intrusion. In order to restore the groundwater basin to fresh water conditions, ACWD utilizes a series of wells to pump the brackish groundwater from the basin, and under a NPDES permit, discharges the brackish groundwater to San Francisco Bay as waste. With the recent implementation of the Newark Desalination Facility, the latest water treatment technology is utilized to treat this brackish groundwater that otherwise would have been discharged as waste. The treated water meets all drinking water standards and is provided as a new, potable supply for ACWD customers. This project, like recycled water, provides the dual benefits of reducing a discharge to the environment, as well as providing a new source of supply (thereby offsetting the needs for other potable supplies). Accordingly, this type of project should be given the same credit that a recycled water project would be given when evaluating an agency's per capita water use.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the 2020 Program. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Eric Cartwright at (510) 668-4206.

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As for the future, your task is not to foresee it, but to enable it.

- Antoine de Saint-Exupéry