

Los Angeles Chapter of the WaterReuse Association
MEETING SUMMARY



Location: Castaic Lake Water Agency
Address: 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350
Purpose: Bi-Monthly Meeting
Date and Time: October 11, 2016 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Distribution: Los Angeles WaterReuse Association Chapter Members

Lunch: Sponsored by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants

Below is a summary of highlights from the October 2016, bimonthly member meeting of the LA Chapter of the WaterReuse Association.

1) Venue host presentation: CLWA Overview, CLWA Recycled Water Phase 2
(Shadi Bader)

Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA) is the state water contractor distributing potable and raw water to multiple cities in the Santa Clarita Valley. Water sources for CWLA include the State Water Project, the Kern River, banked water, local groundwater, and small amount of recycled water. During dry years, there is significant reliance on banked water and additional local groundwater withdrawals to offset the reduced supply from State Water Project.

CWLA produced its first reclaimed water master plan in 1993 and contracted with LACSD in 1996 for 1600 acre-feet per year (AFY) of recycled water. In 2002, a draft recycled water master plan (RWMP) with 11 phases and a demand of 17,441 AFY was prepared. Recycled water deliveries began in 2004 with the completion of Phase 1A of the recycled water system. The Environmental Impact Report for the RWMP Program was certified in 2007. The Santa Clara Valley recycled water rules and regulations were adopted in 2016, and CWLA is preparing to adopt and file Phase 2A-2D CEQA documents next year.

There are two water reclamation plants (WRPs) in the Santa Clarita Valley: Valencia WRP and Saugus WRP. Phase 1 of the CWLA's recycled water program connected to Valencia WRP Valencia with a 3 ½-mile pipeline from the treatment facility to a recycled water reservoir.

There are four options for Phase 2 of the RWMP: Phase 2A – Central Park, Phase 2B – Vista Canyon, Phase 2C – South End, and Phase 2D – West Ranch. Phase 2A would include 33,000 to 40,000 linear feet of pipe, supply 480-560 AFY, cost an estimated \$22-28 million, and begin construction in 2023. Phase 2B would include 11,000 linear feet of pipe, supply 300 AFY, cost an estimated \$7 million, and begin construction in 2018. Phase 2C would include 33,000 linear feet of pipe, supply 1,374 AFY, cost an estimated \$22-25 million, begin construction in 2019, and serve parks and a hospital. Phase 2D would include 5,000 linear feet of pipe,

supply 186 AFY, cost an estimated \$4 million, and begin construction in 2018. All preliminary design reports have been completed for these options, and CEQA approval is being pursued.

The next steps for CWLA are to finalize and adopt the 2016 RWMP, the 2016 recycled water project environmental impact report, and CEQA for Phase 2A-D. CWLA will then initiate final design for those phases, complete grant applications, and sign cost sharing agreements with water purveyors.

Shadi's presentation can be found on the LA Chapter WaterReuse website.*

2) Lunch Sponsor presentation: CWLA Recycled Water Master Plan (Dawn Taffler, Kennedy/Jenks)

The goal of this effort was to update the 2002 master plan based on recent developments and information. Near-term objectives included updating the Phase 2 recycled water system expansion, supporting upcoming design work, and assisting in the pursuit of available grants and loans. Mid-term objectives included optimizing the expansion of the non-potable recycled water system and the further investigation of the next steps for implementing potable reuse. The long-term objective was to assess potable reuse through either surface water augmentation or direct potable reuse.

The availability of water for non-potable and potable reuse began to moderate around 2005 as conservation began affecting water flows at Valencia WRP and Saugus WRP. A minimum of 13 MGD is required for the river, and not all recycled water flows can be utilized due to changes in seasonal supply and demand. A market assessment for non-potable reuse showed there is a demand of 12,500 AFY, but prospective customers are spread over a wide area. However, the analysis showed there are opportunities for developing potable reuse, which could be implemented by surface water augmentation at Castaic Lake or surface water spreading to recharge a groundwater basin. Surface spreading would require diluent water but could use tertiary effluent, which is relatively inexpensive. Direct injection would allow the use of all of the water but also poses many challenges, such as treatment and brine disposal costs from using reverse osmosis membranes.

Four alternatives were considered for the RWMP. Alternative 1 had the implementation of non-potable reuse following Phases 2A-D. Phase 2C had the highest flow and lowest normalized cost of all the Phase 2 options. Alternative 2 included additional non-potable reuse for expansion to the north, south and into Westside communities. Expansion into Westside communities was the least expensive option for this alternative. Groundwater recharge through surface spreading (Alternative 3) considered multiple sites and would use the underflow in the groundwater basin as diluent. Tertiary effluent could be used for this purpose, but blending could be done with higher quality water produced at Valencia WRP. Alternative 4 involved advanced treatment for potable reuse via direct injection, surface water augmentation, and direct potable reuse and was much more expensive than the other alternatives.

An evaluation of these options revealed Phases 2 B-D of Alternative 1 to be the best option, with Phase 2A implemented only if groundwater recharge is determined to be feasible. The recommendation was to pursue this alternative and conduct the preliminary design and environmental work for Phase 2A. The next steps include Phase 2 implementation, development of agreements for Phase 2 projects, performing a groundwater recharge feasibility study, and tracking Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts chloride compliance project outcomes to see how this might affect CWLA's plans.

Question and Answer Session (included Shadi Bader of CWLA):

- Question: What assumptions were made about customers accepting recycled water?
 - At the planning level, customers of a certain minimum size were assumed to accept recycled water if they were along the pipeline that would be constructed.
- Question: Are there any potential customers against accepting recycled water?
 - Yes, particularly with schools, but CWLA plans to dispel fear through education. There have been similar issues around LA County, and education has worked in those areas. Plus, the water is cheaper, which provides an incentive for customers to receive it.

Dawn's presentation can be found on the LA Chapter WaterReuse website.*

3) Water Recycling Legislative/Regulatory Updates (Raymond Jay)

- Review of 2016 Legislative Dates
 - 8/31 - last day for bills to be passed
 - 9/30 - last day for governor to sign or veto
 - 11/8 - general election
 - 11/30 - adjournment of legislative session
 - 1/1 - statutes take effect
- 2016 Recycled Water Legislation
 - AB 2022 - bottling demo water
 - AB 2890 - Drinking water and wastewater operator certification
- Other notable water legislation
 - SB 552 - help failing water agencies and can consolidate them
 - SB 814 - reduce overuse by individuals
 - SB 1263 -ban new small water agencies
 - SB 1755 - repository for water data around the state
 - AB 2594 - allows capturing stormwater and selling to customers with some restrictions
- Regulatory update
 - DPR feasibility study will be finalized by 12/31
 - LA Chapter of the California WaterReuse Association had a workshop on 9/22
 - Comments on the feasibility study are due by 10/25 at noon
 - Surface water augmentation regulations are due to be finalized 12/31
 - A draft should be available soon
 - DDW is not sure if they can make the 12/31 deadline

- Evaluate recycled water for use by animals (e.g., in a zoo) by 12/31
- Mandatory recycled water commercial and residential building standards should be available in 2017
 - It will be up to local entities to determine if recycled water is available, and if builders must include recycled water systems in new development
- General permit revisions are still being developed
- Onsite WW treatment system policy for boiler blowdown, onsite water uses, etc. is still being developed.
 - WaterReuse supports the concept but wants to be sure the people running these treatment systems know what they are doing, treat the water to T22 standards if it is being used inside, and do not give recycled water a bad name if there is a failure.
- DPR feasibility report
 - There have been 3 WaterReuse workshops and 2 SWRCB workshops.
 - The review workshop showed the Expert Panel believe it is technically feasible to do DPR now but additional research suggested in the report would help with better implementation.
 - The Advisory Panel, which is a users' group with real-world experience, stated DPR is feasible under appropriate situations and recommended additional research.
 - The workshop on 10/6 had 4 state board members present and included the following notable comments:
 - The implementation plan should be strengthened and include timelines for how long it will take to develop DPR criteria
 - Clarification should be provided regarding how to develop criteria concurrently with research. When will the research be done? State Board appears to be a little more conservative about this.
 - The definitions of types of DPR compared to surface water augmentation should be clarified.
 - DPR can be considered now on a case-by-case basis but requirements will likely be strict.
 - There was a question about imposing standard source control and WWTP optimization requirements on agencies that do not have control over those issues.
- Federal legislation
 - Congress is adjourned until 11/13 and has only 3 weeks after the election to act with only 1 of 12 appropriations bills passed so far. There is hope a water bill will be considered and passed during that time.
- Question and Answer Session
 - Questions: Now that it is feasible, is WaterReuse asking for a specific deadline for developing criteria? Is there any consideration of lobbying a legislator to draft legislation with a date?

- A comment letter will put pressure on DDW to develop a reasonable timeline but is not pushing for a specific timeline. Legislation is a possibility but pushing too hard could result in onerous requirements.
- Questions: Will MWD comment?
 - A draft letter is going around but it is undecided if MWD will comment directly or through associations.
- Instead of writing your own comments, you can submit a concurrence with someone else comments. There will be several comment letter going in. If there are questions/comments to get into the joint letter, send to Raymond.
- No State Board members thought DPR could not be done.

Raymond's presentation can be found on the LA Chapter WaterReuse website.*

4) Regulatory Agency Update:

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

- No update

SWRCB Division of Drinking Water Programs (*Dmitry Ginzberg*)

- DPR feasibility report was posted on website on 9/8
 - There have been workshops throughout the state, including one at MWD
 - Comment deadline was moved to noon on 10/25 to allow 45 days for comments to be submitted
 - The video recording from the Sacramento workshop will be posted this week. This is the one with comments for state board members.
- Surface water augmentation rules are still forthcoming but a date for the release of draft is unavailable. Check the state website for information.

LARWQCB

- None

5) Chapter Updates (*Judi Miller*)

- Approval of Aug 2016 Member Meeting Summary
 - Approved without opposition
- The LA Chapter is looking for someone who will take-over meeting summaries after the December meeting. Please contact Judi Miller to volunteer.
- Elections will be held at the December meeting for President, Vice-President, Chapter Trustee and Secretary. Everyone will seek reelection except for Kraig Erickson, who is stepping down as Vice-President. Nominations must be made by the end of October.
- The LA Chapter is looking to establish formal committees.
 - Newsletter committee - Matt Elsner
 - Need help developing content
 - Questions for the Guru
 - Technical topics
 - Next meeting will be water quality sampling

- Need individuals to track these topics and recruit speakers
- Legislation/regulatory liaison
 - State level position that brings back information from those sessions to LA Chapter
- Recycled water policy committee
 - Looking for others to evaluate policy documents and provide comments on behalf of the LA Chapter
- Industrial Reuse Committee
 - There was a committee meeting in Tampa and the committee is updating its strategic plan. The committee does not want to compete for audiences.
 - 2017 industrial/commercial conference
 - End of May 2017 in Atlanta, GA:
 - Focus on food and beverage, cooling towers, heavy manufacturing, and water for power production.
 - There will be new opportunities for sponsorship.

6) Focus Areas

- Funding Opportunities (*Raymond Jay*)
 - Available financial resources are dwindling.
 - Let the chapter know about your experience getting outside funding, including what went well and what did not go well.
 - The handout has details of funding opportunities.
 - MWD has a funding program. Ray Mokhtari can be contacted for more information. There are some big projects for LADWP, and more details about the MWD program will be provided at the next meeting.
 - There are several Prop 1 grants.
 - Be sure to apply for funding, even if you are late to the game.
 - WaterSMART grant applications should be released soon.

John Robinson's handout can be found on the LA Chapter WaterReuse website.*

7) Other Topics

- MWD has a potable reuse demonstration project in the works. Construction of the facility should be approved at the end of this year or early next year.
- Next WaterReuse Board meeting is first week of November. Contact Monica if you want an update about that meeting.

8) Membership Roundtable (*Raymond Jay*)

- LA County Department of Parks and Recreation will provide an update in February.
- West Basin will provide an update in December.

9) Next Meetings

- December 6, 2016 – Host: *Metropolitan Water District*; Sponsor: *CH2M*

- February 14, 2017 – Host: *LA County Department of Parks and Recreation*; Sponsor: *IDEXX*
- April 11, 2017 – Host: *Central Basin Municipal Water District*; Sponsor: *RMC*

Los Angeles Chapter Officers for 2016

Raymond Jay, President	213-217-5777	rjay@mwdh2o.com
Kraig Erickson, Vice President	805-550-5232	kerickson@rmcwater.com
Judi Miller, Secretary/Treasurer	213-228-8236	judi.miller@ch2m.com
Monica Gasca, Chapter Trustee	562-908-4288 x2838	mgasca@lacs.org
John Robinson, Past-President	626-375-9389	jrobinson@johnrobinsonconsulting.com

* The presentations from this meeting can be found at:
<http://www.watereuse.org/sections/california/losangeles/meetings>

Meeting Attendees

Member	Organization
Austin Straus	LADWP
Bertha Ruiz-Hoffmann	Los Angeles County Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Bob Yamaguchi	Walnut Valley Water District
Brian Folsom	Castaic Lake Water Agency
Cheryl Ann Villegas	Valencia Water Company
Chris Saenz	Valencia Water Company
Dawn Taffler	Kennedy/Jenks Consultants
Dmitriy Ginzberg	State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water
Duong Ung	LADWP
Earle Hartling	Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County
Eric Wood	Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health
Fred Geringer	Trussell Technologies
Gerry Filteau	Separation Processes, Inc.
Gilbert Chacon	City of Burbank BWP
Gilberto Ramirez	LA County Dept. of Public Health
Hélène Baribeau	AQUALity Engineering
Jared Lee	City of Burbank
Jason Yim	Castaic Lake Water Agency
Jennifer Valdez	Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power
Jenny Anderson	Valencia Water Company
Joe Walters	Purple Pipe Consulting
Jordi Fuentes	Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health
Judi Miller	CH2M HILL
Matt Elsner	RMC Water and Environment
Mozaffar Bahrami	Los Angeles County Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Paul Halushka	Castaic Lake Water Agency
Raymond Jay	Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.
Richard Bichette	RMC Water and Environment
Romy Sharafi	RMC Water and Environment
Shadi Bader	Castaic Lake Water Agency

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Member	Organization
Tom Monk	Walnut Valley Water District
Tony Umphenour	Burbank Water and Power
Walter Alarcon	Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power

TOTAL ATTENDEES: 41