Early Action Plans and Community Engagement

Office of Public Participation
State Water Resources Control Board

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Background

Early Action Plans must include,

“outreach utilized to ensure that impacted groundwater users are informed of and given the opportunity to participate in the development of proposed solutions.”

Document Scope

- Early Action Plan development
- Office of Public Participation staff recommendations
- Recommendations should be viewed as a menu of options
Importance of Engagement

Benefits of meaningful engagement
- Better decisions
- Reduces delays
- Improves credibility and develops community support
- Conduit to other programs
- Regulatory compliance

Risks of poor engagement
- Community needs not met
- Distrust and resistance
- Basin Plan amendments requirements not met
- Rejection of MZIPS
- Heightened costs
Overarching Principles

- Communicate effectively
- Protect personal information
- Acknowledge diverse interests
- Evaluate and revise strategy
Key Elements

1. Learning about the community
2. Educating the community
3. Collaborating with the community
4. Maintaining community involvement
1. Community profile
   - Contact list

Learning about the community

2. Educational materials
   - Point of contact
   - Hard copies available
   - Distribute materials
   - Hold community meetings

Educating the community
Collaborating with the community

- Timeline
- Distribute materials
- Community meetings
- Public comment

Maintaining community involvement

- Provide updates
- Maintain contact
Remote engagement
Resources

- Developing Community Profiles
- Plain Language
- Language Access
- Communication Platforms
- Community Meetings
- Community Engagement Resources
- Evaluating Engagement
Discussion Questions

1) What resources can we include in this document that will assist you with engaging communities?

2) Are there any areas of community engagement that you would like guidance on that were not included?

3) Additional input?
Next Steps

Share your feedback to
OPP-contact@waterboards.ca.gov by

Post on the CV-SALTS website:
http://waterboards.ca.gov/cvsalts
Contact Us
OPP-Contact@waterboards.ca.gov

Thank you!

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