

**MEETING NOTES**  
**Joint Technical/Economic and Social Impact Committee Meeting**

**March 18, 2009**

**Attendees:**

See attached Sign-in sheet: Telephone participants included: Karna Harrigfeld, Jim Atherstone, Jerry Thibeault, Harold Thomas, Eva Steinle-Darling, Phil Stringfellow, Erika DeHollan, Joe LeClaire,

**1. Welcome and introductions/Review of Agenda**

Technical Advisory Committee Co-Chair Nigel Quinn called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and attendees introduced themselves. He noted the new location of 910 K Street, Suite 100, ACWA, might have confused some people. Agenda Item 6 was moved to after discussing agenda item 3.

**2. Approval of Meeting Notes from February 18, 2009 Meeting**

Mr. Quinn noted that the meeting notes had been posted on the website. The Committee approved the meeting notes as posted.

**3. Salt Source Pilot Study Procurement Update**

Daniel Cozad indicated that the scope of work is finalized and a pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for April 17th. The subcommittee has been compiling a list of firms interested in proposing to undertake the work, and the Daniel Cozad will distribute the RFP the week of March 19, 2009. NOTE: The selection committee will be composed of Daniel Cozad for CVSC, Linda Dorn representing wastewater, Ben Hall representing the food processing industry, Lisa Holm from Reclamation, and Jim Martin from Regional Board.

**6. Final Economic Report Presentation**

Professor Richard Howitt of UC Davis, stated the pdf file should be posted by the end of the week. The main difference is the total impacts increased by adding in Sacramento to Tulare, and San Joaquin, and then the rest of California. They also have a range of high/medium/low scenarios for salinity accumulation. The conclusion remains the same that additional hydrologic work is necessary to truly understand the economic impact of salinity in the Central Valley, therefore funding should go to hydrologists instead of economists. Agriculture has the most direct impact and statewide impacts are expected to be between \$1.6 to \$3 billion annually. Conservative climate assumptions were used in the model, and a regression function for the salinity area was used to extrapolate from a smaller area. The modeling left groundwater pumping at the same level of the last 15 years and that shows an overdraft of groundwater. Although not included in this report the water quality component of a peripheral canal is incredible, modeling shows .5 million tons of salt are imported through the Delta, and .6 million tons

would be reduced by a peripheral canal. In economic terms when discussing the economic impacts of salinity with legislators the job loss aspect gets more attention.

#### **4. Technical Workshop from Santa Ana Region**

The DRAFT Technical and Policy Approach Lessons from the Santa Ana and Implications for CV-SALTS initiative was presented. Two workshops will take place one on May 14, 2009 the other on May 28, 2009. The Bureau of Reclamation offered to host the workshop and UCD also offered to host. Both will check if a room is available for approximately a 100 people and let Daniel Cozad know what is available for those dates. An inquiry was made as to whether the workshop could be webcast for those not able to attend in person. Both the UCD said they have WebEx so the workshop could be attended remotely, but a web cast would not be possible. Lisa Holm of the Bureau also asked for people to review and get any suggestions on the “Questions to be Answered” portion of the workshop back to her or Daniel Cozad.

#### **5. Work Plan Outline Review and Recommendations**

Daniel Cozad reported on Version 9 of the work plan outline. The next step is to develop duration, cost estimates and review overlapping timeframes in the schedule. The schedule when using one task having to be completed before the next started led to a timeframe of 15 years. Daniel Cozad asked all to review the overlaps and get back to him on what tasks it is possible to do concurrently instead of sequentially. For Costs Daniel asked for committee members to send him the costs for projects that are similar and to review the costs that are in the “Workplan Costs and Duration” spreadsheet, downloadable from [www.cvsalinity.org](http://www.cvsalinity.org), but difficult to fit on 11” X 17” paper and read. The overall cost estimate currently is \$17-\$25 million, and some costs discussed for similar projects were the CEQA for the Irrigated Ag program was \$1.5 million and the San Luis Drainage Project was \$15 million, therefore it is believed the cost estimate for this Workplan is low, but do need to recognize that the overall cost does not include sub-regional work completed by other entities. Linda Dorn will schedule a subcommittee meeting to review these documents before the next Technical/Economic and Social Impact Committees.

#### **7. Review of Final “Things You Can Do” from PEO Committee**

Concerns regarding point number 4 (water softeners) were resolved by teleconference with those who had the concerns and the current language was acceptable to all. The committee made some revisions to point number 2, reduce salt in your diet and point number 3, conserve water. Daniel Cozad tracked the changed language and a vote on approving the newly named “Things Households Can Do to Reduce Salt Impacts” was approved with no nay votes or abstentions.

**8. Nitrate Influence on Chromium Mobilization**

Rudy Schnagl reported that a USGS study on the above subject is not finalized therefore a full discussion will not occur until the next TAC meeting. The issue involves the establishment of Chromium 6 Public Health Goal of .6 ppb when in some Central Valley areas naturally occurring Chromium 6 is above that level. Rudy requested at least 25 minutes on the next meeting agenda to discuss the report after it is released.

**9. Fertilizer Fee Grant Update**

Amrith Gunasekare, Senior Environmental Research Scientist, Department of Food and Agriculture, [agunasekara@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:agunasekara@cdfa.ca.gov) gave a presentation on the Fertilizer Research and Education Program that is funded by a .3 mil tax per \$1 dollar of fertilizer. The program has up to \$800,000 for this fiscal year. The timeline for project submittal has passed, but CV-SALTS can consider submitting a proposal for next year in early March. The program accepts a wide variety of projects and has focused on nitrates for 20 years, more information on the program and projects can be found at [www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/fflders/frep](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/fflders/frep). Amrith passed around the proceedings from the 16<sup>th</sup> annual Fertilizer Research and Education Program Conference and said anyone wanting a copy could contact him.

**10. Actions/Recommendations/Report to the Executive Committee**

- Notify the Executive Committee of the Workshop on the Santa Ana Basin Plan process
- Request input from Executive Committee on Workplan outline is range of costs and schedule, with particular attention paid to overlapping tasks timeline

**11. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2009 at a location to be determined. The meeting adjourned around 12:05 p.m.



Central Valley

# SALTS

Salinity Alternatives for Long-term Sustainability

## Meeting Sign-in

Meeting Technical Economic Comms. Date 3/18/09

Name	Organization	Email (if new or changed)
Jon Schwartz	CASH - Smyth, Simmons Dunh	j
Burt Ferguson	Human Resources	
Rob Deem	CIRP	
Jerry Horner	SWRCS	
Eric Canal Hunt	U.C. Davis	
Joe Drago	Kennedy/Leites Consultants	jdragos@kenedyleites.com
Rudy Schmal	RWCB	
Sam Maston	RWCB	
MARK FELTON	CULLIGAN WATER	
TRAVIS PETERSON	CVCWA	
Jody Gyrisio	Eco Service	
Tom Reyes	City of Vacaville	
Karl Langley	CVRWCB	
Don Odum-Bleen	CVRWCB	
David Cory	STUDA	
Thomas Hartner	UC Davis	



# SALTS

Salinity Alternatives for Long-term Sustainability

Central Valley

*TECH/BEON*

## Meeting Sign-in

Name	Organization	Email (if new or changed)
Nigel Owen	LANC / USBR.	
Lisa Holm	USBR	
Ben Hall	Nasco Family Olive Co.	
Amritha Givasekara	CDFA	AGIVASEKARA@CDFA.CA.GOV.