

MEMBER UNITS EXHIBIT NUMBER 61

## MINUTES

### CITY OF LOMPOC - CACHUMA PROJECT MEMBERS NEGOTIATIONS TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

November 7, 1994, 1:30 p.m.  
Public Works Conference Room, 630 Garden Street  
Santa Barbara

Present: (See attached sign-in list.)

The meeting was convened at 1:40 p.m.

1. Changes to the Agenda None
2. Approval of Minutes of October 3, 1994 Minutes approved as submitted, with the exception of one correction. Mr. Mack clarified, with regard to the second paragraph on page 2, that he was to serve as a resource to the Water Supply Alternatives Subcommittee, as opposed to being a part of the subcommittee. He also noted that the agenda reference should be to the Modeling Subcommittee rather than the Water Quality Subcommittee.
3. Status Report from Modeling Subcommittee Mr. Durbin noted that the subcommittee has not met since the last meeting and there was no report to make, other than to say that he has been working on writing up some of the information he has been working on, including documentation of his model.
4. Status Report From Water Management Alternatives Subcommittee Mr. Schuster noted that he had hoped to have a draft of the subcommittee's study plan available to circulate for review. However, he felt after meeting with other members of the subcommittee that it was not quite ready to circulate and summarized the major points instead. He noted that the subcommittee is attempting to find out whether it is possible to both 1) stop or retard the degradation of water quality in the Lompoc Basin, and 2) increase the reliability (yield) of the Cachuma Project. He discussed a number of steps that will be included in the recommended study plan based on his thoughts and those of the other members of the subcommittee. He noted that the study plan should make clear up front that the subcommittee is attempting to set aside questions of who is responsible for impacts and to focus on solutions that meet the two objectives. Mr. Schuster went through the anticipated steps in the study plan:
  1. Establish a "base case" situation for use in comparing various alternatives. The base case would use flows at the Narrows as predicted by 1) the Santa Ynez River Model, assuming Cachuma is operated for the full 1953-1991 period under 89-18, 2) the "upper curve" of the percolation table in the groundwater model, 3) and cloud seeding at historic levels. Mr. Schuster noted also that he and Mr. Durbin intend to do some more work on quantifying and documenting the water quantity predictions that were discussed as a part of earlier meetings. Mr. Mack noted that the task of finishing up the quantitative analysis should really be part of the Modeling Subcommittee's work.
  2. Attempt to quantify the potential for improving groundwater quality by pumping water

out of the shallow zone of the Lompoc basin, either for discharge to the ocean or for treatment to remove dissolved solids, followed by reuse within the basin. The goal would be to remove poor quality water from the basin and at the same time provide greater storage capacity to increase the quantity of recharge with higher quality water from the river. It was noted by Mr. Mack that the agreement states an objective of "improving water quality in the Lompoc plain," and that there is still some confusion as to how this objective should be defined, quantified, and measured.

3. Investigate the potential for conjunctive use of the Cachuma Project and the downstream groundwater basins as a way of meeting the dual objectives of improved quality in Lompoc and increased yield at Cachuma. Mr. Schuster indicated that he suspects this might involve use of dry year Below Narrows account water during wetter years to improve the quality of water recharged into the Lompoc Plain groundwater basin. He suggested the increase in the yield of the Cachuma Project by making more storage space available to catch water during wet years that would otherwise spill, and relieving the Project's obligation to make the Below Narrows releases in drought years. It was noted that the Above Narrows basins are likely to have limited use as a part of a conjunctive use program.
4. Assess the success of steps 1-3 in terms of improving water quality and increasing yield, and, if necessary, look for additional water for recharge in the basin. Possible sources include construction of off-stream storage facilities to capture river water during spill periods, or exchange of alternative supplies of the Cachuma contractors, such as State Water Project water or desalination.
5. Assess the potential for using increased wet-year releases as a means of also meeting possible requirements for maintaining fish habitat.
6. Assess the potential for in-stream improvements to increase the amount of recharge.

Mr. Schuster indicated that the study plan would also list the tools that would be used, including use of the Santa Ynez River Model for assessing river flow issues and use of Mr. Durbin's models for analyzing groundwater issues. Additional documentation on both models is needed and will be provided.

Mr. Schuster noted several other ideas that were not included in the six steps, but have not been rejected. These include direct delivery of State Water Project water to agricultural users and/or to the City of Lompoc (likely in conjunction with the facilities necessary to "mine" salt from the basin), use of temporarily unused SWP water entitlements, use of SWP facilities to deliver water from the State Water Bank, exchange of desalinated water, and use of "unscheduled" deliveries from the Sacramento River Delta. He concluded by stating that the subcommittee is aiming to get initial estimates on steps 1 and 2 by the December 7, 1994 meeting of the Policy Committees. The draft study plan will be circulated soon for comment by members of the Technical Committees.

Mr. Mack noted that 89-18 will most likely change and wondered how that might affect any

solution. There was discussion about how a proposed solution by the Technical Committees would mesh with one that supports fishery enhancement. There was general agreement that 89-18 has to be the base case, but recognition that different operating scenarios will affect the results of any recommendations based on 89-18.

There was discussion about whether the focus of the committees' efforts should shift from attempting to solve water quality problems of the entire Lompoc valley to attempting to solve those of the City of Lompoc. Mr. Keefe stated that he believed the goal of the agreement was to improve the water quality situation for the entire valley, not just the City of Lompoc, though the Lompoc City Council could be asked whether it would like to make such a change. Mr. Durbin stated that he thought the Committees were attempting to expand the issues to the point where benefits are provided to all parties.

Mr. Petersen said that the Water Management Alternatives Subcommittee would meet again to review the draft study plan on November 18, 1994 and would aim to get the draft out for review by the Technical Committees shortly thereafter.

5. Other Business

A. Mr. Mack raised the issue of another extension of the term of the agreement, noting that the Cachuma members are likely to be committed by the State Water Resources Control Board to a process of discussing downstream impacts of the Cachuma Project for the indefinite future. He suggested that the Committees consider recommending another, longer extension of the term of the agreement. Mr. Keefe and Mr. Schuster will explore this subject with members of the Lompoc City Council.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Technical Committees was set for 10:00 a.m. on Monday, November 28, 1994 in the Public Works Conference Room, 630 Garden Street, Santa Barbara. It was also confirmed that the Policy Committees will meet on December 7, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. in Lompoc.

7. Public Comment Mr. Almy suggested that the alternatives subcommittee consider use of the 75-year period of data (1918-1993) in the Santa Ynez River Model in developing the base case in the study plan. He also suggested that the Administrative Draft Environmental Impact Report on the Cachuma contract renewal may have useful information that could save some time and effort by the subcommittee.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

