Improving Bay Area Water Supply Reliability — A Regional Approach

The Bay Area’s largest water agencies are working together to develop a regional solution to improve the water supply reliability for over 6 million area residents and the thousands of businesses and industries located therein. The Bay Area Regional Reliability (BARR) Partners include Alameda County Water District, Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, Contra Costa Water District, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Marin Municipal Water District, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Santa Clara Valley Water District, and Zone 7 Water Agency. The BARR Partners have joined forces to leverage existing facilities and, if needed, build new ones to bolster regional water supply reliability.

Regional Benefits

For BAWSCA, the benefits of a regional approach include:

- Enhancing water supply reliability
- Bolstering emergency preparedness
- Addressing climate resiliency needs
- Leveraging existing infrastructure investments
- Facilitating the transfer of water supplies during critical periods of drought or following natural disasters

BARR Drought Contingency Plan (DCP)

The BARR DCP, funded in part by a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) grant, serves as the first phase of the BARR project. The DCP differs from past planning efforts because it focuses on the Bay Area as a region as opposed to individual agencies, and it will integrate all of the required elements into one document. By taking a regional approach to drought contingency planning, the agencies will be able to enhance water supply reliability, leverage existing infrastructure investments, facilitate water transfers during critical shortages, improve climate change resiliency, and better meet the needs of the community and environment.

Public Review and Comment Opportunity

The draft Plan is available for public review and comment at www.bayareareliability.com. The BARR partners will host a public meeting at EBMUD (375 11th Street, Oakland, CA) on June 20th at 6 pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend the public meeting to provide comments. Written comments may be provided via email to alice.towey@ebmud.com (please include as the subject line “BARR DCP Public Comments”). Comments may also be sent via US mail to the address provided below:

Bay Area Regional Reliability DCP Public Comments
c/o East Bay Municipal Utility District
375 11th Street, MS 407
Oakland, CA 94607
Attention: Ms. Alice Towey, Sr. Civil Engineer, at alice.towey@ebmud.com.

Comments must be received by the close of business (5:00 PM) on June 26, 2017