AGENDA

CFEE Roundtable Conference on California’s Long-Term Water Supply Strategies

March 3 – 4, 2011
The Lodge at Sonoma, Sonoma, California

Overview

Last fall, part one of this two-part conference was convened to focus on the things we can and are doing now to improve water supply reliability – pending outcomes on the “big picture” issues — the Delta and Colorado River. In Part II of this conference we will discuss what long-term solutions look like for these historical sources of imported water. With the commencement of a new Administration, it is timely to have a candid conversation about the real issues including, the real cost of possible solutions – and as always, who will pay.

Thursday, March 3rd — Sonoma Ballroom

11:30 am-1:00 pm – Buffet Lunch — Blue Oak Room

1:00 pm-1:15 pm – Welcome and Introduction

Patrick F. Mason, President, CFEE

1:15 pm-1:30 pm — Review of Fall Conference

The 2010 water roundtable focused on actions being taken at local and regional levels to address water supply and reliability issues, including seawater desalination, water conservation, groundwater storage and conjunctive use, governance and institutional challenges, and the reality of water economics. This session will provide a brief recap of the issues and actions discussed at our last conference.

Chris Frahm, Attorney/Legislative Advocate, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

1:30 pm-5:30 pm — Fixing the Delta: What’s the Game Plan?

The Delta is the hub of the state’s imported water supply and the focus of years of conflict. Numerous groups, committees and state and federal processes have tried to grapple with the competing needs, multiple objectives, management issues, and the daunting financial challenge of a comprehensive solution. The afternoon session will focus on three key issues: status of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), development of the Delta Plan, and the financing implications and options associated with each.

John Laird, Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency (10-15 min)

1:30 pm-2:45 pm — PART I: Bay Delta Conservation Plan

The BDCP is being prepared through a collaboration of state, federal, and local water agencies, state and federal fish agencies, environmental organizations, and other interested parties. The issues are complex and the solutions are controversial, not to
mention expensive. Stakeholders will provide their candid perspectives on the development of the plan and the key issues currently under discussion and debate.

**Karla Nemeth**, Bay Delta Conservation Plan Liaison to the Natural Resources Agency (10 min)

5 min each for the following:

**Roger Patterson**, Assistant General Manager, MWD of Southern California

**Greg Gartrell**, Assistant General Manager, Contra Costa Water District

**David Nawi**, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Dept of the Interior

**Jay Ziegler**, Director of Policy and External Affairs, The Nature Conservancy

**Brent Walthall**, Assistant General Manager, Kern County Water Agency

Roundtable Discussion

2:45 pm-4:00 pm — PART II: Delta Stewardship Council Delta Plan Update

One of the tasks of the Council is to develop a sustainable management plan for the Delta. The Council is conducting a comprehensive stakeholder process as they prepare the plan for completion, adoption, and initial implementation by January 1, 2012. The first draft was released in February — what are the core components of the plan? How does it relate to – or depend on – the BDCP?

**Joe Grindstaff**, Executive Director, Delta Stewardship Council (10 min)

**Phil Isenberg**, Chair, Delta Stewardship Council (5-7 min)

**Felicia Marcus**, Member, Delta Stewardship Council (5-7 min)

Roundtable Discussion

4:00 pm-4:15 pm — Break

4:15 pm-5:30 pm—Part III: Financing and the Delta: The Reality of Water Economics

Is a reliable water supply affordable? What are the real costs of a Delta conveyance system? What are the risks if we continue to disguise the true cost of water from ratepayers?

**David Sunding**, Professor, Department of Agriculture & Resource Economics, UC Berkeley (10 min)

**Roger Patterson**, Assistant General Manager, MWD of Southern California (5-7 min)

**Ken Manning**, President, California Groundwater Coalition (5 min)

**Denise Kruger**, SVP, Regulated Utilities, Golden State Water Company (5 min)

**Barry Nelson**, Senior Policy Analyst, Natural Resources Defense Council (5-7 min)

Roundtable Discussion

6:30 pm — Dinner and Reception — Jacuzzi Family Vineyards

(Transportation provided)
Friday, March 4th
7:30 am-8:30 am — Continental Breakfast — Sonoma Ballroom

8:30 am-10:00 am — Water Supplies from the Colorado River
What is the status of the litigation regarding the Quantification Settlement Agreement? Will it result in revisions to the agreement, and what are the implications for California? What are the long-term strategies being considered to address declining water supplies for Southern California?

  John Entsminger, Assistant General Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority (10 min)
  Joseph A. Vanderhorst, Senior Deputy General Counsel, MWD of Southern California (10 min)
  Dan Grossman, Rocky Mountain Regional Director and Project Manager Colorado River Basin, Environmental Defense Fund (5 min)
  Jackson Gualco, Representative, Imperial Irrigation District (5 min)
  Mark Watton, General Manager, Otay Water District and Board Member, San Diego County Water Authority (5 min)

Roundtable Discussion

10:00 am-11:00 am — PPIC Report: Managing California’s Water: From Conflict to Reconciliation
What are California’s current and projected water conditions and challenges, options for reforming those conditions, and existing water systems, their costs, and their governance? A new report recommends potential management and reform options.

  Ellen Hanak, Senior Fellow, Public Policy Institute of California (15 min)

Roundtable Discussion

11:00 am-11:15 am — Break

11:15 am-12:15 pm — Next Steps
Taking all the ideas which emerged from the table discussions, what kind of reform is needed to make real progress? Who should be charged with doing what and when? What are the consequences if we do not change?

Roundtable Discussion

12:15 pm-12:30 pm — Summary and Closing