



Topic: **Authority Board Agenda Item 4-1**

2019 July 22

Subject: **Monthly Status Report**

Requested Action:

No action requested. Informational item

Detailed Description/Background:

General Manager and staff to provide an update on project activities performed in May 2019 for; Program Management & Administration, Engagement & Outreach, Proposition 1, Environmental, Feasibility Study and Engineering and Technical Support.

Prior Authority Board Action:

None.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

None.

Staff Contact:

Jim Watson

Attachments:

Attachment A: June 2019 Status Report

Topic: **Sites Reservoir Project, Phase 2**

Subject: **Monthly Status Report**

Report Period: **2019 June**

Summary:

The development of the Sites Project continues to make progress in the critical areas associated with the reprioritized Phase 2 budget and work plan, including the following activities;

- Finalized and released the Federal Government Affairs services RFO. Interviews and selection planned for July 2019.
- Continued detailed consultations with CDFW regarding permit compliance.
- Continued discussion with USFWS on Biological Assessment approach and schedule.
- Supporting Reclamation on completion of their federal Feasibility Report, including the coordination of permit applications and NEPA/CEQA compliance documents with Reclamation for the NODOS Feasibility Geotechnical Investigations.
- Executed CWC Early Funding Agreement on June 17, 2019 and finalizing the draft Early Funding Invoice for submission to CWC staff.
- Amendment to the Phase 2 (2019) Agreement's Exhibit B was approved.

Coordination with Reclamation:

- Continued coordination of Project activities funded by Reclamation and those funded by the Authority, including detailed final reviews of the project description and environmental commitments.
- Provided technical comments to the updated federal Feasibility Report, Sites budget and associated technical and policy evaluations.
- Participated in the Quarterly Reclamation project review related to engineering, technical, and operational elements of the federal Feasibility Report.
- Continued coordination efforts related to the geotechnical testing and sampling work that will advance the design, facility siting, and cost estimate that support the federal Feasibility Report.
- Reclamation is preparing a NEPA Categorical Exclusion related to the geotechnical testing and sampling work.

Permitting and Environmental Planning:

- Although limited by the availability by primarily the federal agencies, continuing ongoing coordination efforts. Activities included further development of the contents of the federal Biological Assessment, including initiating meetings with USFWS, and recently started detailed consultation meetings with CDFW.
- Continued coordination with Reclamation on advancing tribal and SHPO consultation under Section 106.
- Continued efforts and largely completed the CEQA Notice of Exemption along with most of the State and local permit applications to conduct geotechnical testing and sampling work that will advance the

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design, facility siting, and cost estimate that support the federal Feasibility Report.

- Continued development of analysis tools to determine the effects of daily and long-term operations on species and their habitats.
- For year 2020, started to identify biological and cultural survey windows and access needs to help inform the state and federal permitting activities.

Real Estate, Stakeholder Engagement & Public Outreach:

Continuing ongoing coordination efforts with landowners, local community members, state and federal elected officials, government agencies and coalitions of regional and statewide organizations including the following activities;

- Responded to landowner requests for project information, facilitated coordination activities with local government agencies and organizations, and planned for future landowner, stakeholders and general public outreach activities and events.
- Worked to finalize protocol for temporary right of entry access to property for targeted Phase 2 technical studies and coordination activities with our project technical team to plan for the Phase 2 (2019) geotechnical field work.
- Conducted a project site tour for California Water Commission WSIP staff (6/6), facilitated project update briefings for CA Sen. Nielsen's district staff (6/17) and for CA Assemblyman Gallagher's district staff (6/18), conducted an AB 52 coordination meeting with the Yocha Dehe Tribe, presented at the Mountain Counties Water Resource Association's (MCWRA) California United Water Conference (6/26-6/28), and continued to meet with firms, predominately engineering, who expressed an interest in obtaining a better understanding of the project in advance of the Authority's release of the Engineering Services RFQ.

Program Management & Administration:

- Continuing to conduct biweekly integration meetings with all Service Area Providers and staff
- Continued program IT development of SharePoint enhancements, Smartsheet implementation, and roll-out of the GIS ROW tool.
- Rolled out the cost control database and project invoice reporting engine.
- Finalized the Engineering Services RFQ for an early July release.
- Continued development of a draft Storage Policy for reservoir operations.
- Re-started development of a Principles of Agreement discussion with Reclamation and DWR.
- Compiled a proposed facilities footprint layer in GIS, to aid in environmental analysis to support permitting and coordination activities related to avoiding, minimizing, and mitigating potential impacts.
- Developed strategy for cash flow management utilizing the program schedule.
- Continued the preparation of an Affordability Analysis.
- Updating the Field Visit protocol.