Regional Conveyance System Study
Borrego Community Forum

November 5, 2020
<table>
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<th>Agenda</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Welcome Moderator Remarks:</strong></td>
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<td>Kelly Rodgers, director of the Colorado River program, San Diego County Water Authority</td>
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<td><strong>Background:</strong> Dan Denham, deputy general manager, San Diego County Water Authority</td>
<td>5 Minutes</td>
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<td><strong>Regional Conveyance System Study Overview:</strong> Kevin Davis, vice president, Black &amp; Veatch Corporation</td>
<td>15 Minutes</td>
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<td><strong>Borrego Input:</strong></td>
<td>15 Minutes</td>
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<td>Françoise Rhodes, executive director, Borrego Springs Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>David Garmon, president, Tubb Canyon Desert Conservancy</td>
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<td>Dick Troy, board president, Anza-Borrego Foundation</td>
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<td><strong>Q&amp;A</strong></td>
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Background
Who is the Water Authority?

- 1944 - Wholesale water agency serving San Diego County

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Supplies come from the Bay Delta and Colorado River

San Diego County Water Authority

One of Metropolitan’s 26 member agencies – supplies come from Metropolitan, Carlsbad Desalination Plant and Imperial Irrigation District Water Transfer and Canal Lining Projects

San Diego County Water Authority Member Agencies

Water Authority has 24 member agencies
QSA Conserved Water Sustains San Diego County

- More than half of county’s water is from 2003 QSA conservation agreement
- Agreement helps sustainably manage Colorado River
- QSA supplies are complementary to local supplies; both are necessary
- QSA supplies are lowest-cost source and highly reliable
- Pay MWD to deliver that water for Water Authority
Water Authority Board Must Make Long-Term Decision

- IID conserved water transfer initial term ends in 2047 with potential extension
- Exchange Agreement with MWD ends in 2047
- Water Authority Board must decide now in order to be prepared for and protect future generations
Current Two-Phase Study

Water Authority Board directed an incremental approach on studying options for delivery of QSA supplies

- **Phase A**
  - Focus on engineering and costs
  - Identifying technical and financial fatal flaws
  - Offramp at end

- **Phase B**
  - Detailed economic analysis
  - Stakeholder outreach and dialogue with potential partners
  - Offramp at end
RCS Study Update
Three Routes Studied in Phase A

Alternative 3A

Alternative 5A

Alternative 5C
Phase A Objectives

- **Evaluate conceptual routes** - in feasibility study stage, nothing designed - great deal of flexibility
- **Evaluates Feasibility of Alternative 3A** - up to the same level as 5A and 5C, the two southern alternatives
- **Fatal Flaws** - Determine any technical or financial fatal flaws. Others to be examined during CEQA later
- **Screening** - Screen three alignments down to two
- **Identifies Potential Partnerships** - Perform high-level assessment of potential partnership opportunities that could bring regional benefits
  - Partnerships not included in baseline cost assessment
Phase A Findings

- QSA water needed
- 3A, 5A & 5C technically viable
- 3A & 5A economically competitive
- Can be integrated into Water Authority system
- Several potential partnerships
Alternative 3A - Key Facilities Needed

- 47 Miles of Canal
- 3 Pump Stations
- Treatment Plant
- 39 Miles of Buried Pipelines
- 47 Miles of Tunnels
- Surface Storage
Alternative 3A - Borrego Springs Area (Base)
Alternative 3A - Borrego Springs Area (Option)
Considerations

- Construction activities (Material excavation, groundwater)
- Costs (Capital, OM&R)
- Environmental (focus on construction)
Alternative 3A - Potential Partnerships

- **Identification** - High level only “in the neighborhood”
- **Borrego Springs** - Potential Conduit for Water
  - Third Party - Not QSA Water
  - Sizing - Could provide similar to over-draught of 20,000 AF
  - No Aquifer Storage Considered in RCS Study, Phase A
    - Not economically attractive
    - Sufficient storage available in San Diego County for QSA
Environmental Concerns - ABDSP

- No Preferred Alternative has been selected

- RCS Study, Phase A
  - Only obvious environmental fatal flaws assessed.
  - Outlined the environmental process

- Environmental Constraints Analysis - Future phases

- CEQA/NEPA
  - Future phases
  - Will be final authority on fatal flaws
3A - Borrego Concerns and Responses

- Impact to ABDSP, Cultural Resources, *Bighorn Sheep*
- Tunneling impacts on groundwater, surface streams, and wildlife
- Tunneling debris transportation
- Impact to *Geo-tourism*, temporary construction and long term
  - Mitigation measures can be implemented to reduce impact

CEQA/NEPA will be carefully followed in future phases if project moves forward
3A - Borrego Concerns and Responses

- **Concerns If Partnership is Developed**
  - **Structural integrity** of the Borrego Springs Sub-basin
    - Additional studies will be done to assure structural integrity is maintained
  - **Water quality** impacts of stored water in Borrego Springs Sub-basin
    - Water treatment to acceptable levels may be needed

- **Tunnel Crossing Active Faults**
  - Special considerations would be made to mitigate potential impacts, if project moves forward

- **No outreach has been done in Borrego**
  - Part of Phase B scope, if authorized

**Partnerships**

Only work if both parties benefit
Potential Partnerships for Water Resiliency

- Regional operational surface and groundwater storage
- Projects at the Salton Sea
- Renewable energy generation and integration
- Bi-national projects
- Projects with tribes
- Public-private
- Federal, state
- Local agencies including member agencies
- Others
Timeline

Pre-construction - 10 years

2020
Phase A Study
Phase B Study
Preliminary Design (CEQA Support)
Environmental/Permits
Land Acquisition
Agreement Negotiations
Design-Various Packages
Construction
Public Outreach

2025

2030

2035

2040

2045

Construction - 15 years

Offramps
Next Steps

- November 19  Water Authority Board Action on Phase B
- Phase B focus - stakeholder outreach, dialogue with potential partners, economic analysis
Borrego Input
Francoise Rhodes, Executive Director
BORREGO SPRINGS & PROPOSED RCS

J. David Garmon, M.D.
President, Tubb Canyon Desert Conservancy
3A - NORTHERN ALIGNMENT
PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION TO ...

- Tubb Canyon?
- Up Palm Canyon Drive to the State Park Visitor Center?
- Glorietta Canyon?
- Between Rams Hill and Casa del Zorro?
RCS TO TUBB CANYON
RCS TO GLORIETTA CANYON

To Intermediate Tunnel Portal

Original Alignment

Revised Pump Station Location

Revised Alignment
RCS TO RAMS HILL
PUMPING STATION (P3) FOR BORREGO

- 10 Acre Site
- Electrical Substation
- 4 Acre Forebay
- 4 12,500 Horsepower Engines
- Running Day and Night
NEW 230KV POWERLINE THROUGH THE ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK
ROUTE 3A BENEFITS FOR BORREGO IRRIGATORS

- to provide a conduit to Borrego Springs from the Colorado River
- 20,000 acre-feet per year capacity turnout for Borrego Springs
- to use the water directly for either non-potable uses, or to send to new treatment facilities
ROUTE 3A COSTS TO BORREGO IRRIGATORS

- millions of $$ in annual charges for 20,000 acre-feet of Colorado River water
- multimillions of $$ for capital costs to transport Colorado River water from the turnout for conjunctive use with existing Subbasin plumbing system
- or multimillions in $$ for capital costs to transport Colorado River water for direct use by irrigators
- hundreds of thousands of $$ in annual O&M expenses for either transport option
ROUTE 3A EXTERNALITIES & DOWNSIDES

- many-years construction process and noise negatively impacts Borrego as a quiet desert resort destination
- large water use for construction process to reduce air quality degradation from blowing dust
- potential pollution of Subbasin groundwater
- potential for compromising Subbasin structural integrity depending on amount of storage and timing of withdrawals
- bifurcation of ABDSP assumed as a free $$ resource
BORREGO FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
Dick Troy, board president, Anza-Borrego Foundation
Live Event Q&A

Q&A

Include your name and affiliation with questions.
You can also email questions to sdcwa@sdcwa.org.