

AD-HOC ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND PERMITTING WORK GROUP

JUNE 2020





Agenda

- Previous Action Item Review
- Project Description Update
 - Baseline – Operations Modeling
 - Project Objectives
 - Alternatives
- ICF EIR/EIS Work Plan Update
- Permitting Update
- Organizational Assessment Items
 - Agency Working Team
 - Negotiations Approach
- Work Group Charter Approval
- Upcoming Work and Priorities
- Next Meeting

Previous Action Item Review

Previous Action Item Review

Action Item	Owner	Deadline	Notes	
1	Align Contract Amendment 2 Task Breakdowns among the service areas (carried over from previous meeting)	Sites Integration/ Controls	--	Work with Controls to line up the task breakdowns (i.e. Project Description, DEIR/EIS, BA, ITP, etc.) among the service providers (specifically ICF and Integration Environmental Planning and Permitting) so it is clearer how much is spent for a specific task.
2	Integration will send the preliminary revised objectives to the entire Work Group for review and comment	Integration	May 29, 2020	Linda sent on May 20, 2020. Provide comments in either track changes mode or comment bubbles.
3	Provide comments on Alternatives 1 and 2 handout	Work Group Members	May 29, 2020	Ali sent on May 18, 2020. Provide comments in either track changes mode or comment bubbles.
4	Develop graphic for Alternatives 1 and 2	Integration/ Engineering	Next Work Group Meeting	Need May 29 input for consideration in refining alternatives for graphic development

Project Description Update





Project Description Update

- Baseline – Operations Modeling
- Project Objectives
- Alternatives



Project Description Update – Baseline Operational Modeling

- Approach Discussed with Ops Work Group
 - **Continue development with ROC on LTO baseline and incorporate State ITP actions after release of DCR2019 joint model implementation**
- ROC on LTO Alternative 1/Proposed Action provides:
 - The most defined and expedient starting point for analysis of Sites Project operations
 - Latest representation of Shasta Lake tiered cold water pool management that is critical to understanding opportunities for exchange of water with Sites Reservoir
- Use of the merged Sites version of the model developed for the Reclamation Feasibility Report will expedite model development to meet the required schedule
- Operations criteria for State ITP actions will be incorporated based on DCR2019 as soon as available
- Conduct additional gap and sensitivity analyses to evaluate additional operations that are needed to support the Sites Project planning and permitting process



Project Description Update – CEQA Project Objectives

- See Handout – Reservoir Committee Staff Report for Item 3-3
- Received several comments
 - Modified to respond to comments
- Modifications
 - Reordered
 - Clarified Text
 - Refined Text



Project Description Update – Alternatives

- Introduced Alternatives 1 and 2 at May 19 meeting:
 - Alternative 1 – based on VP7
 - 1.5 MAF reservoir; facilities sized accordingly
 - Alternative 2 – components of VP5 and VP6
 - 1.3 MAF reservoir; facilities sized accordingly
- Requested comments by May 29
 - Updated Table, see handout
 - Modified to respond to several comments
 - Updated based on input from engineers



Project Description Update – Alternatives

- Modifications to the Alternatives include:
 - Elimination of dam fill type, replaced with number of saddle dams anticipated
 - Funks Reservoir and TRR facilities called out separately, clarification of existing vs. new
 - Updated hydropower to include power generation incidental upon release
 - Clarified that local flood damage reduction is based on reservoir storage
 - Confirmed that recreational facilities are consistent with WISP
 - Added electrical facilities and connection to WAPA or PG&E
 - Updated Dunnigan release – Alt 1 release 1,000 cfs to the CBD; Alt 2 release to Sacramento River, partial to CBD
 - Updated access to reflect Sites Reservoir Road Modifications in development



Project Description Update – Next Steps

- Informational Presentation at Reservoir Committee and Authority Board
- CEQA Legal Counsel Review
 - Confirm objectives and reasonable range of feasible alternatives
- Continued Definition of Alternatives as Feasibility Level Design Progresses
- Preliminary Project Description in August
- EIR Project Description consistent with CEQA:
 - Should contain enough information so that the impact analysis contains a meaningful assessment of the Project’s impacts
 - “Should not supply extensive detail beyond that needed for evaluation and review of the environmental impact” (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15124).

ICF EIR/EIS Work Plan Update



ICF EIR/EIS Work Plan Update

- The team is finalizing the Work Plan for the Revised Draft EIR/EIS
 - Describes approaches to address integral thematic issues raised by commenters on the 2017 Draft EIR/EIS
 - Describes updates/revisions to existing setting, assessment methods, etc. to different resource chapters
 - Identifies preliminary list of technical needs and updated or new appendices to update the 2017 Draft EIR/EIS and timeframes for completion
 - Identifies a preliminary list of batch deliverables for Revised Draft EIR/EIS chapters and appendices based on completion of project description and modeling



ICF EIR/EIS Work Plan Update – Next Steps

- Final review by Integration/Authority
- Will serve as the template for ICF's Service Area E Amendment 2 Scope of Work
- Implement concepts identified in the work plan into an annotated outline

Permitting Update





Permitting Update– Biological Assessment

- Ongoing Activities
 - Working on the development of the updated project description and data needs with engineering, integration and Sites
 - Coordinating with the operations modeling team
 - Identifying technical memos/appendices needed for the EIR/EIS and Biological Assessment



Permitting Update – USACE

- Ongoing Activities
 - Planning for meeting with USACE in Aug/Sept to obtain agreement on approach and application requirements for:
 - Clean Water Act Section 404 Individual Permit, including 404(b)(1) requirements for the EIS LEDPA analysis
 - River and Harbors Act Section 408
 - Wetland Delineation



Permitting Update – CDFW

- Ongoing Activities
 - Internal coordination between Service Areas
 - Operations
 - Geotech
 - Engineering (Dams and Conveyance)
 - Real Estate
 - Draft Key ITP Milestones through 2022
 - Identify Key Coordination Activities



Permitting Update – Water Rights

- Ongoing Activities
 - Place of Use Approach
 - Objectives
 - Strategy
 - Approach
 - Next Steps
 - Begin planning for meeting with State Board staff
 - Coordinate with MBK on Amendment 2 scope and cost estimate



Permitting Update – Geotech

- Ongoing Activities
 - Established small working group
 - Identify geotech locations
 - Coordinate activities across service areas
 - Review data and access requirements
 - Pre-screen locations for constraints
 - Begin permitting activities

Organizational Assessment Items



Organizational Assessment Items – Agency Working Team

- Two technical working groups
- Facilitate regular communication and coordination with state, federal and local agencies
- First Group: Open to any interested agency
 - Quarterly meeting and general update
- Second: Focused fisheries and operations
 - Meet as-needed with key fishery agency and technical staff.
- Groups will meet through end of 2022



Organizational Assessment Items – Negotiations Approach

- Identify an effective and efficient negotiation process
- Include policy and technical input from members
- Identify clear roles and responsibilities for all involved

Organizational Assessment Items – Negotiations Approach – Roles

- Lead Negotiator
 - Executive Director or designee
 - Supported by Negotiations Team, Integration and Service Area providers
 - Determines parameters and principles
 - Responsible to RC and AB to achieve parameters and principles
 - Empowered to lead and manage the negotiations
- RC & AB
 - Policy level oversight
 - Approve parameters and principles
- RC and AB define the parameters and principles that set “what” the Lead Negotiator must accomplish
- Lead Negotiator determines “how” to accomplish

Organizational Assessment Items – Negotiations Approach – Member Involvement

- Negotiation Team
 - Includes 2 to 4 RC and/or AB members assigned by the appropriate Work Group chair
 - Should be balanced representation of interests
 - Provides technical, policy, and strategy input to Lead Negotiator
 - Represent interest of Sites Project and Sites members as a whole
- Executive level relationship should be fostered between RC and AB members and agency political appointees to assist negotiations



Organizational Assessment Items – Negotiations Approach – Applicability

- Applies to environmental planning, permitting and operations permits and agreements
- Examples:
 - Federal and State ESA
 - National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106)
 - Clean Water Act
 - Water right permit
 - Operations plans with Reclamation and DWR
 - Use of facility agreements with TCCA and GCID
 - DFW for Prop 1 environmental benefits

Work Group Charter Approval



Work Group Charter Approval

- Adopted 2019 Charter in October 2019
- 2019 version still applicable and relevant
- Need to adopt for 2020
- Limited changes made to the 2019 version:
 - Updated members
 - Minor editorial changes

Final Stretch . . .





Upcoming Work and Priorities – June / July Focus

- Continue development / refinement of Project Description
 - Revised Draft EIR/EIS
 - Biological Assessment
- Begin preparing Revised Draft EIR/EIS Annotated Outline
- Prepare Amendment 2 scope of work and cost estimate
- Continue discussions with Reclamation on EIS approach and ESA and Section 106 Consultations



Schedule Next Meeting

- Early August meeting
 - Topics –
 - Amendment 2 Scope and Cost Estimate
 - Additional refinements and status of the project description and alternatives
 - Geotech Update