# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (SEC)

July 22, 2020

This summary is provided as a resource for committee members and the public to have brief highlights following SEC meetings. In addition to this summary, detailed meeting minutes, question and answer documents and full meeting video will be available on the <u>dcdca.org</u> website.

## MEETING OVERVIEW

The 10th meeting of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC) was held via video conference on July 22. The meeting video, agenda, presentation and supplemental materials are available for review on the <u>dcdca.org</u> website.

#### **DWR General Updates**

- DWR Environmental Manager Carrie Buckman updated the SEC on DWR's environmental process and noted that the Scoping Report has been released and is available on the website.
- The USACE will prepare an EIS under NEPA. They are planning to issue a Notice of Intent that will begin scoping in late summer.
- The Soil Investigations NOD was issued on July 9. Geotechnical evaluations on publicly-owned land are anticipated to begin this fall.

## **DWR Project Alternatives Formulation Process**

- Information about design alternatives for the proposed Delta Conveyance Project was presented to the SEC in the spirit of transparency and for the purpose of explaining why some alternatives will receive detailed evaluation in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This will contextualize future work done by the DCA, with opportunities for feedback from the SEC.
- Alternative formulation is still in progress. The information about alternatives provided to the SEC in this meeting is usually not shared with the public, especially this early in the process, prior to release of the DEIR.
- DWR evaluated all alternatives received in scoping through two filters: first, whether it achieves most of the project objectives, and then whether it avoids or substantially lessens an expected significant environmental effect of the proposed project.

### **DWR'S ALTERNATIVE SCREENING FILTERS**

Filter One: Meets most of the basic project objectives



Filter Two: Avoids or substantially lessens an expected significant environmental effect of the proposed project

- The <u>alternatives</u> submitted through scoping were categorized into four basic types of conveyance: dual, isolated, through-Delta and other.
- Some of the more publicly-discussed alternatives were reviewed as examples of how DWR screens alternatives for further design and analysis. Those alternatives reviewed with SEC members include A Water Plan for All of California, the Western Delta Intakes Concept, No-Tunnel and Through-Delta proposals and the Bethany Alternative.
- Of those examples, DWR determined the Bethany Alternative merits further consideration because it meets the project objectives and could reduce potential effects. Go to the July 22, 2020 presentation for more information about this discussion.

## DCA Response to SEC Feedback

DCA Levees and Forebays Manager Graham Bradner provided updates on how DCA is addressing feedback by trying to maximize restoration of agricultural land, reducing truck traffic, minimizing and optimizing site footprints, minimizing construction activity around Stone Lakes Refuge and providing more detail about tunnel boring machine soil conditioners.

- DCA has identified proposed measures to restore construction impacted land for agriculture. This will help maximize the amount of agricultural land returned for agricultural use at the conclusion of construction.
- DCA staff met with Ms. Lindsey Liebig and representatives of the Sacramento County Farm Bureau (SCFB) to seek input on methods to restore construction impacted land and to discuss concerns with
- The engineering team has optimized maintenance shaft sites to reduce the overall footprint as well as the anticipated construction traffic.
- To avoid Woodbridge Preserve Units, the maintenance shaft previously proposed at Brack Tract was moved to Canal Ranch Tract.
- Further measures to reduce construction activities around Stone Lakes Refuge were identified. Intakes 3 & 5 have been prioritized for the 6,000 cfs alternative which also allowed the elimination of the proposed Lambert Maintenance Shaft.

- MORE ON NEXT PAGE -

## **NEXT MEETING**

August 26, 2020

TIME:

3-6 p.m.

**LOCATION:** RingCentral Video Conference; info TBD

#### POSSIBLE MEETING TOPICS:

- **Updated Traffic** Histograms
- Updates on Intake Design
- Briefing on New Alternative
- \* DCA will comply with public health recommendations regarding public meetings and social distancing efforts. Any meeting changes or cancellations will be communicated to

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Anna Swenson

Angelica Whaley North Delta Local Business

Barbara Barrigan Parrilla Environmental Justice

Cecille Giacoma **Public Safety** 

David Gloski At Large - Contra Costa

At Large - Sacramento Gilbert Cosio

Douglas Hsia

Isabella Gonzalez Potter Environment NGO - Aquatic

Jim Cox . SportsFishing

Ex-Officio

Jesus Tarango Tribal Government Representative (Alternate)

James (Jim) Wallace Delta History/Heritage

Karen Mann South Delta Local Business

**Lindsey Liebig** 

Mel Lytle, Ph.D. Delta Water District

Michael Moran

Malissa Tayaba Tribal Government Representative

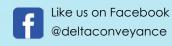
Peter Robertson

Phillip Merlo At large - San Joaquin

Sean Wirth

Mike Hardesty At large - Solano







# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE (SEC)

## MEETING OVERVIEW (continued)

ary of Site Acreages	CONSTRUCTION FOOTPRINT (Yellow)			PERMANENT FOOTPRINT		
	Previous 5/4/2020	Current 7/15/2020	Reduction	Previous 5/4/2020	Current 7/15/2020	Reduction
NORTHERN SHARED SITES						
Intake 3 – Tee	245	244	1	131	124	7
Intake 5 – Tee	242	240	2	113	109	4
Lambert Shaft	5	0	5	5	0	5
Glanville now Twin Cities Launch Shaft	669	507	162	669	111	558
EASTERN ALIGNMENT OPTION						
New Hope Tract Maintenance Shaft	6	11	-5	6	11	-5
Brack, now Canal Ranch Tract Maintenance Shaft	11	11	0	11	11	0
Terminous Tract Reception Shaft	15	13	2	15	13	2
King Island Maintenance Shaft	11	12	-1	11	12	-1
Lower Roberts Island Launch/ Reception Shaft	472	438	34	337	406	-69
Lower Jones now Upper Jones Tract Maint. Shaft	16	13	3	16	13	3
Victoria Island Maintenance Shaft	12	0	12	12	0	12
CENTRAL ALIGNMENT OPTION						
New Hope Tract Maintenance Shaft	7	11	-4	7	11	-4
Staten Island Maintenance Shaft	15	12	3	15	12	3
Bouldin Island Launch Shaft	424	592	-168	423	577	-154
Mandeville Island Maintenance Shaft	16	14	2	16	14	2
Bacon Island Reception Shaft	27	16	11	27	16	11
SOUTHERN COMPLEX						
Southern Forebay and Launch Shaft	1705	1666	39	1327	1293	34
South Delta Conveyance Control Facilities	180	168	12	125	105	20

## ADDRESSING QUESTIONS ABOUT SOIL CONDITIONERS

• DCA Chief Engineer Steve Minassian explained why soil conditioners are needed, how they are utilized, their make-up, and the criteria DCA will use to require eco-friendly properties.

## **COMMITTEE FEEDBACK:**

- Ms. Barrigan-Parrilla said Delta residents have existing water quality issues that DWR should consider as equally important as maintaining the State Water Project.
- Mr. Gloski and Dr. Lytle were tentative about including discussion of the project alternatives in the SEC meeting, given the committee's operation outside of the official CEQA process, and Mr. Gloski would like a greater depth of analysis about the alternatives that were eliminated from further consideration.
- Ms. Liebig said the meeting with DCA was much appreciated, but the agricultural community still has concerns about the ability to return land to productive use after the project's construction. She also reported that the SCFB has started a newsletter to keep the community informed about the project. Additionally, the local FFA group that spoke with Ms. Mallon and modelled their project after the Delta Conveyance process won the California State competition.
- Ms. Swenson expressed concerns about the viability of restoring agricultural land to productive use post-construction and emphasized her view that the economic impacts on farmers would be insurmountable. She also thanked the DCA staff for their ongoing efforts to engage the residents of Hood.
- Mr. Moran suggested the development of a community handout to explain DWR's alternatives analysis process and their initial screening results of the 22 alternatives listed on the SEC meeting handout.
- Mr. Robertson requested updated construction schedules resulting from the site footprint reductions and shaft eliminations.
- Ms. Giacoma suggested an alternate SEC member to share the responsibility of representing the community of Hood since the current representative was absent from the meeting.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- Mr. Bradner will provide a link to the peat soils map from slide 10 of the presentation.
- Updated construction schedules will be shared with SEC members outlining the changes resulting from footprint reductions and shaft eliminations.
- Ms. Swenson will send Ms. Parvizi contact information for a stakeholder in Hood who can possibly help facilitate community engagement.
- Ms. Parvizi will work with the SEC to identify representatives to report out on SEC activities to the DCA Board of Directors at their August meeting.

## SEC AD-HOC COMMITTEE

Up to four different SEC members are invited each month to present to the DCA Board of Directors about the SEC process. SEC members interested in presenting at the August Board of Directors meeting should contact <a href="mailto:nazliparvizi@dcdca.org">nazliparvizi@dcdca.org</a>.

## **SEC Informational Tours**

- Updated <u>Mapbooks</u> have been provided to SEC members, and virtual tours are being developed to reflect those updated site plans. DCA is aiming to have the virtual tours ready within the next two weeks.
- SEC members interested in touring the T-screen facility should contact Ms. Parvizi at <a href="mailto:nazliparvizi@dcdca.org">nazliparvizi@dcdca.org</a>. Please attend if you RSVP; the factory owner is graciously opening the facility to SEC members and sending his employees home for the day to reduce the number of people in the space. The tour will be outdoors and conducted in compliance with applicable health orders.

