

**NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

**Panel Report for Meeting #1:**

**Review of the City of Santa Barbara's Subsurface  
Desalination Intake and Potable Reuse Feasibility Studies**

Based on a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) Meeting on August 5, 2015  
(Panel Meeting #1)

*Prepared by:*  
Technical Advisory Panel (TAP)  
for the City of Santa Barbara's Subsurface Desalination Intake  
and Potable Reuse Feasibility Studies

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August 19, 2015  
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## DISCLAIMER

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This report was prepared by an NWRI Independent Advisory Panel, which is administered by the National Water Research Institute (NWRI). Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this report were prepared by the Panel. This report was published for informational purposes.

## ABOUT NWRI

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A 501c3 nonprofit organization, the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) was founded in 1991 by a group of California water agencies in partnership with the Joan Irvine Smith and Athalie R. Clarke Foundation to promote the protection, maintenance, and restoration of water supplies and to protect public health and improve the environment. NWRI's member agencies include Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Irvine Ranch Water District, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Orange County Sanitation District, Orange County Water District, and West Basin Municipal Water District.

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## ACRONYMS

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AFY	Acre foot per year
ASR	Aquifer storage and recovery
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
DPR	Direct potable reuse
FAT	Full advanced treatment
IPR	Indirect potable reuse
mgd	Million gallons per day
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NWRI	National Water Research Institute
RWQCB	Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
USGS	United States Geological Survey

## 1. PURPOSE AND HISTORY OF THE PANEL

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In 2015, the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) of Fountain Valley, California, a 501c3 nonprofit, appointed water industry experts to a Technical Advisory Panel (Panel) to provide expert peer review of both the *Subsurface Desalination Intake Feasibility Study* and *Potable Reuse Feasibility Study* being undertaken by the Public Works Department of the City of Santa Barbara, California. Carollo Engineers is the lead consultant on this effort.

### 1.1 Project Background<sup>1</sup>

In the late 1980s, the City constructed the Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant, a seawater desalination facility, as an emergency supply. The production capacity of the desalination plant was 7,500 acre feet per year (AFY) with the potential for expansion up to 10,000 AFY. The plant was operated between March and June of 1992, and then placed on long-term standby mode due to sufficient supply.

In 1991, City voters elected to make desalination a permanent part of the City's water supply portfolio. With the approval of the Long Term Water Supply Program in 1994, the City added the desalination plant to its permanent sources of water. In 1996, the California Coastal Commission issued a Coastal Development Permit to the City for permanent desalination facilities up to a maximum capacity of 10,000 AFY.

On July 24, 2015, the City Council issued a contract to reactivate and operate the Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant. As part of recommissioning, the plant will use state-of-the-art technology and design practices to reduce its impact on the environment, including possibly replacing the screened open ocean intake.

### 1.2 Purpose of the Project

The City Council directed the Public Works Department to evaluate the feasibility of (1) replacing the open ocean intake with a subsurface intake and/or (2) implementing potable reuse options, including indirect potable reuse (IPR) and direct potable reuse (DPR).

In addition, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) adopted an amendment to the City's Waste Discharge Requirements for the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant that included a condition that the City should report back to the RWQCB by August 2015 with a Work Plan that will result in completed feasibility studies by June 2017.

The City retained Carollo Engineers, Inc. to complete these feasibility studies under the following three work authorizations:

**Work Authorization 1:** Work Plans for both studies.

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<sup>1</sup> For more information about the feasibility studies, please visit the City of Santa Barbara website at <http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/gov/depts/pw/resources/system/sources/desalination.asp>.

**Work Authorization 2:** Subsurface intake fatal flaw analysis and potable reuse feasibility study.

**Work Authorization 3:** Subsurface intake feasibility study.

The work products for the feasibility studies will be developed to accomplish the following:

- Satisfy the requirements of the City’s amended Waste Discharge Requirements for the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Support a future update to the City’s Long Term Water Supply Plan to include alternatives considered in the studies.

### **1.3 Role of the Technical Advisory Panel**

In 2015, Carollo Engineers requested that NWRI form and coordinate the activities of a Technical Advisory Panel to provide expert peer review of the technical and scientific aspects of the two feasibility studies. Specifically, the Panel will review the work products (i.e., draft Work Plans, technical memos, reports, etc.) for both feasibility studies and consider public comments on these proposed efforts. The Panel’s findings and recommendations will be documented in Panel reports. Background information about the NWRI Panel process can be found in Appendix A.

### **1.4 Panel Members**

The Panel is made up of experts in areas related to drinking water management, desalination and wastewater reclamation technology, hydrogeology, water policy and regulations, and other areas relevant to the two feasibility studies. Panel members include:

- Chair: Amy Childress, Ph.D., University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)
- Heather Collins, P.E., Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)
- Martin B. Feeney, P.G., CHg, Consulting Hydrogeologist (Santa Barbara, CA)
- Heidi R. Luckenbach, P.E., City of Santa Cruz Water Department (Santa Cruz, CA)
- Eric Zigas, Environmental Science Associates (San Francisco, CA)

Brief biographies of the Panel members can be found in Appendix B.

## 2. PANEL MEETING #1

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A 1-day public meeting of the Panel was held on August 5, 2015, at the Santa Barbara City Hall in Santa Barbara, California. This meeting represents the first time the Panel has met to review the *Subsurface Desalination Intake Feasibility Study* and *Potable Reuse Feasibility Study* being undertaken by the City.

### 2.1 Background Material

Prior to the meeting, the following background material was provided to the Panel:

- *Draft Work Plan on Subsurface Desalination Intake*, prepared for the City of Santa Barbara by Carollo Engineers, Inc., and dated July 2015.
- *Draft Work Plan on Potable Reuse*, prepared for the City of Santa Barbara by Carollo Engineers, Inc., and dated July 2015.

### 2.2 Meeting Agenda

Staff from NWRI, the City, and Carollo Engineers collaborated on the development of the agenda for the meeting, which is included in Appendix C. The agenda was based on meeting the following specific objectives:

- The City and Carollo Engineers will present an overview of the Work Plans on both the *Subsurface Desalination Intake Feasibility Study* and *Potable Reuse Feasibility Study*.
- The Panel will conduct a technical review of the Work Plans.
- Members of the public will have an opportunity to provide comments on the Work Plans.

The meeting began with a brief closed session in which the Panel, City staff, and Carollo Engineers discussed meeting objectives. After the closed session, a public meeting was held in which a presentation was given by Carollo Engineers on the purpose, objectives, and other aspects of the Work Plans for both feasibility studies, followed by questions from the Panel. The floor was then open to public comments.

Once the open public session concluded, the Panel met briefly with the City and Carollo for additional clarification before moving on to a closed Panel session to discuss the information presented. Before the meeting adjourned, the Panel prepared a report outline and drafted preliminary findings and recommendations, which have been expanded upon in this report.

### 2.3 Meeting Attendees

All Panel members attended this meeting in person except Heidi Luckenbach, who was able to participate in the closed Panel session by conference call. Other meeting attendees included NWRI staff, City staff, Carollo staff and their sub-consultants, and others. A complete list of Panel meeting attendees is included in Appendix D.

### 3. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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The principal findings and recommendations derived from the material presented and discussed during the Panel meeting are provided below. The findings and recommendations are organized under the following categories:

- General Comments
- Project Goals
- Subsurface Desalination Intake
- Potable Reuse
- Other Comments

#### 3.1 General Comments

The following comments pertain to the overall Panel review of Work Plans for both the *Subsurface Desalination Intake Feasibility Study* and *Potable Reuse Feasibility Study*.

- The Panel greatly appreciated the high-quality and detailed Work Plans provided by the City and its consultants in advance of the meeting. In addition, the background presentation given by the City was helpful to the Panel in its discussions.
- The Panel commends the City’s effort to evaluate alternative water supply options. Potable reuse and seawater desalination have the potential to play key roles in diversifying the City’s water supply portfolio and increasing reliability.
- The pursuit of solutions to the City’s drought and long-term water supply provides a great opportunity to evaluate the best uses of water. The City of Santa Barbara was an innovator, when it came to developing desalination in the 1990s. Twenty-plus years later, the City has another opportunity to be an innovator in its efforts to find alternative water supply sources. The path forward is currently framed around feasibility and is defined by a series of constraints; another option is to frame the path around opportunities, finding and developing realistic and implementable solutions. For example, based on the State’s Recycled Water Policy, the City could explore potable reuse options and meet the balance of need with subsurface intakes. Although the current studies are intended to meet the direction from City Council and RWQCB, a broader view could be taken in exploring alternatives that avoid or minimize environmental impacts associated with open ocean intakes while ensuring the City meets its water supply needs.
- The objective of the subsurface intake study is to identify subsurface intake alternatives that could replace the open ocean intake volume. The basis of the design criteria should specify if seawater desalination operations would occur under drought conditions or full time (as a base supply). Technical constraints will determine if the intake alternatives survive the “fatal flaw” analysis. But it is known that potable reuse options will not meet the goal of replacing the permitted intake volume (i.e., <10,000 AFY) because the City does not generate enough wastewater to do so, especially during a drought. The potable



reuse options, therefore, could be approached differently, perhaps by looking at realistic potable reuse opportunities, rather than attempting to meet a goal that cannot be achieved in the feasibility study.

- While the feasibility studies are being prepared in direct response to City Council and RWQCB direction to look at two options (i.e., subsurface desalination intakes and potable reuse), the information gathered for these feasibility studies will have a secondary use: to inform the City’s long-term water supply planning efforts. Although an alternative may be flawed in its ability to meet the basis of design criteria for these specific feasibility studies, the same alternative may have utility if the objectives or basis of design criteria are different in future studies; therefore, the Panel recommends the use of another term for “Fatal Flaw,” such as “Held from Further Consideration,” “Not Carried Forward,” or “Does Not Meet Project Objectives.”
- It is the Panel’s understanding that the City will undertake the technical feasibility “fatal flaw” evaluation first (rather than evaluate obvious constraints, such as the lack of appropriate real estate and conflicting land uses) because:
  - It addresses regulatory requirements set by the RWQCB.
  - It follows the example set by the evaluation of subsurface intakes for a proposed desalination plant in Huntington Beach, California.

Undertaking the technical feasibility evaluation first may be appropriate for the subsurface desalination intake study, but may not be most appropriate for the potable reuse study because the potable reuse study is being performed solely for the City – not for regulatory needs. Although it seems logical to have similar structures for the two Work Plans, it could artificially force upon the potable reuse study significant technical work and costs that might be avoided if the screening criteria were applied differently.

- In the feasibility evaluation and/or fatal flaw analysis, how will criteria be scored? Will the criteria be weighted equally?
- The maps used for these studies should show the locations of the desalination facility and wastewater treatment facility, as well as include a north arrow and legend.
- Real estate acquisition will be needed for water supply project flexibility. Is this being considered in the Work Plans?

### **3.2 Project Goals**

The following comments pertain to the goals and objectives of undertaking the feasibility studies.

- The City is encouraged to seek further clarification on the basis for the feasibility studies. What are the requirements for the permit issued for the desalination plant by the RWQCB? Based on these requirements, the specific objectives of the feasibility studies need to be clearly stated in the Work Plans. The City and its consultants need to consider adding a narrative to both Work Plans that describes primary and secondary objectives. The primary objective would address fulfilling City Council and RWQCB requirements.

The secondary objective would address the development, definition, and exploration of component options that could be considered as part of the City's long-term water supply planning efforts.

- In the current study, full replacement of the screened open ocean intake is listed as the only option. Subsurface desalination intakes and potable reuse are considered as mutually exclusive rather than combined to develop integrated solutions; however, it is likely that the best solution will include combinations of components and complimentary opportunities. The Panel understands this level of review would be conducted at a later time.

### **3.3 Subsurface Desalination Intake**

The following comments pertain to the *Draft Work Plan on Subsurface Desalination Intake* for the Subsurface Desalination Intake Feasibility Study.

#### ***Section 1.0: Introduction***

- Clarify whether the desalination facility is intended to provide a base supply (i.e., operated full-time) or be used as an emergency supply (e.g., during periods of drought) as part of the City's long-term water supply options.
- Page 4, bullet 1, states: "A full replacement of the City's open ocean intake using a subsurface intake." Is there any consideration of "partial replacement"? Some regulatory agencies are suggesting that subsurface intake be maximized to the extent feasible, with the remainder of intake water subsidized by open ocean intake water.
- Regarding Figure 2 on the "Project Schedule," it appears that the schedule focuses more time on the field work item rather than the permitting. The City of Santa Cruz conducted a similar study in which the offshore geophysical study required about 6 months to permit and less than 1 month to conduct the field work.
- Provide a brief summary of precedent studies.

#### ***Section 2.0: Basis of Design***

- Project Site Alternatives: The Panel is concerned that the City has limited itself with the criteria for the project site locations. It may be too narrow to start with this reduced suite of only onshore locations. As an example, the City of Santa Cruz evaluated approximately 18 different onshore locations that could accommodate a pump station and an almost equal number of offshore locations for the intake (i.e., slant wells, horizontal wells, infiltration gallery, and open ocean intake). The exercise of culling feasible sites was valuable to the City of Santa Cruz.
- Subsurface Properties: The section on "Field Program Permitting" (page 13) should include the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

- Water Quality and Treatment Needs: The Panel is interested in learning more about the consideration of carbon dioxide in the subsurface source water and its contribution towards greenhouse gases (page 16).
- Subsurface Intake System Analysis: In general, the methodologies listed in the Work Plan seem appropriate for the study’s objectives; however, as an exception:
  - It is proposed that the existing U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) groundwater flow model may be used to assess the performance of subsurface intake technologies and impacts to groundwater contamination migration and wetlands depletion. The discretization, layering, and ocean boundary condition of the existing USGS model is inappropriate for the evaluation of subsurface intake performance and impacts. The existing model has a very large cell size, does not have an apron under the seafloor such that seafloor infiltration can be simulated, and does not simulate groundwater flow in the surficial sediments that are hydraulically connected to the ocean. It is understood that the USGS model is currently being updated; however, these limitations are not slated for correction in the new model. Initial analysis of the performance of the subsurface intake likely will need to be performed with analytical methods. If a subsurface intake meets performance criteria, the impacts could be later addressed by inserting a more refined model into the regional USGS model and using the regional model for boundary heads.
- Reliability Features: Address the frequency and complexity of maintenance for subsurface intakes.
  - The Work Plan sets a feedwater goal for the subsurface intake of approximately 16,000 gallons per minute. Some amount of redundancy should be built into this estimate. The Huntington Beach evaluation used a 20-percent redundancy, which seems appropriate for systems with small pumps operating in a seawater environment.
  - Address how maintenance procedures (e.g., pump replacement and well rehabilitation) will occur and the frequency of these efforts.
  - Clarify why a 20-year service lifespan has been adopted.

***Section 3.0: Feasibility Criteria and Fatal Flaws***

- The Panel appreciates the inclusion of economics as part of the definition of “feasibility” for this study (page 23); however, economics needs to be understood in the context of the other metrics (i.e., environmental, social, technical) and perhaps have a role that, at least at this stage of the study, is not weighted as heavily. Similarly, the Panel is concerned about use of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) definition of “feasible” at this point in the evaluation, particularly with respect to environmental metrics, since the permitting thresholds required for project implementation will be more stringent than the CEQA thresholds.
- The Panel recommends that the first sentence of Section 3.1 (which references CEQA) be deleted.

- The feasibility criteria listed in the Work Plan seem appropriate for the study’s objectives with the following exceptions:
  - Geotechnical Factors #1b – Proper operation and maintenance procedures should reduce the risk of well clogging and should be considered as part of the component definition rather than considered a potential flaw.
  - Hydrogeology Factors #3 – Please confirm that the potential impact on freshwater aquifers resulting from additional drawdown might cause groundwater to flow seaward, as stated, and not inland.
  - Energy Use #13 – CEQA does not include a threshold for energy use to determine potential impacts. The question is whether the project will use energy efficiently (i.e., would the project exclude wasteful, inefficient, and unnecessary consumption of energy during project construction, operation, maintenance, and/or removal that cannot be feasibly mitigated?)
    - Under NEPA, is there a threshold? What is it for greenhouse gases?
    - What is the “project” referenced in #13 and #14? Is it the subsurface intake? The subsurface intake less the energy of the open ocean intake? Less the pretreatment (that a subsurface intake may eliminate?) Is the carbon dioxide of the subsurface intake incorporated here?
  - Reliability and Performance #22a/b – Performance Risk (#22b) is associated with “a large amount of uncertainty with regard to likelihood of successful implementation,” while Precedent of Technology (#22a) could be used as an indicator of uncertainty and, therefore, performance risk. Will the use of both criteria address the same issue?
- Regarding the “Design and Construction Constraints” listed in Table 3.2 on “Fatal Flaw Criteria,” the Panel notes that land issues with respect to adequate land onshore are difficult to assess because one could argue that some or all of the onshore facilities could be moved further onshore to a suitable location (requiring a longer tunnel or trench).
- If land-based subsurface intake technologies other than those producing from the surficial beach deposits (i.e., slant wells or deeper vertical wells) are to be considered, a much better understanding of the near-shore subsurface hydrogeology will be essential. Currently, significant consequential conflict exists in published literature regarding the location of the offshore boundary between the producing zones of the groundwater basin and the consolidated sediments underlying the ocean floor. Understanding the location and nature of this boundary is fundamental to estimating volumes of seawater that can be induced through seafloor leakage and to characterize the sources and blend of the resulting feedwater. Resolving this conflict may require extensive geophysical and/or exploratory work.
- The subsurface intake feasibility evaluation will begin with technical aspects (i.e., Will it work? Can it be built?); however, for most land-based subsurface intake approaches, yield, produced water quality, and inland impacts are extremely sensitive to the setback distance from the shoreline. It may be unavoidable to not address the siting constraints of land availability and sea level rise before determining performance feasibility.

- The feasibility should consider sea level rise and its implications for coastal erosion. It is recommended that the study avoid using the coastal erosion analysis to determine “if any control features can be provided to protect the facilities.” If sea level rise is going to affect the facility during its useful life, then the facility is being sited in a location that will be impacted. The inclusion of protective measures (rather than locating the facility out of the hazard zone) may not be acceptable to the California Coastal Commission.
- Other studies have shown that wells at the coastal margin can impact groundwater basins or induce seawater intrusion. The criteria need to address this issue.

### ***Section 5.0: Cost Estimating Methodology***

- Consider if the feasibility analysis, environmental review/permitting/public process, property and easement acquisition, and design fees can or should be included in the costs to compare with other alternatives (e.g., open ocean intake or potable reuse). Ensure the costs are truly comparable.

## **3.4 Potable Reuse**

The following comments pertain to the *Draft Work Plan on Potable Reuse* for the Potable Reuse Feasibility Study.

### ***Section 1.0: Introduction***

- More emphasis appears to be given to IPR for groundwater injection than other options for recycled water usage (e.g., DPR, aquifer storage and recovery, or reservoir augmentation). Are the other options being considered as much as IPR for groundwater injection? For example, the activities to assess and ascertain the feasibility of DPR (e.g., using treated wastewater effluent as desalination feedwater) could present project opportunities for the City.
- Please clarify who owns the wastewater from the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant (e.g., is it the City of Santa Barbara?).
- Provide a brief summary of precedent studies.

### ***Section 2.0: Basis of Design***

- Why is the discharge of advanced treated wastewater into Lauro Canyon Reservoir considered DPR?
- Production Capacity: The average daily flow needs to be augmented with an understanding of diurnal flow.
  - Equalization can be used to address diurnal flows.
  - Include the storage options for buffering or for equalization, conveyance, treatment, and distribution.

- Water Quality: The City will need an appropriate source control program if potable reuse is to be implemented. Please provide a brief narrative on the present source control program for the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Optimization of the El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant process operations and water quality should be considered.
- Treatment: As proposed in the Work Plan, full advanced treatment (FAT) will be used to produce recycled water for IPR; however, the FAT treatment train needs to be specified in the Work Plan, including a schematic.
- Groundwater Recharge (Section 2.5): On Page 13, consider including “impact to other wells” as a feasibility screening criteria.
- Groundwater Recharge (Section 2.5.1): On page 14, the Work Plan suggests an assumed injection rate of 75 percent of the extraction rate. What is the basis for the 75-percent injection rate? Experience has shown that injection well performance in finer-grained sediments can be better maintained with injection rates closer to 50 percent of the extraction rate.
- Groundwater Recharge (Section 2.5.2): On page 14, fourth line, should this sentence begin with “This project will *review* available...” and not “This project will *provide* available...”?
- Groundwater Recharge: The existing USGS groundwater model is adequate for the assessment and quantification of the volume of recycled water that might be cyclically stored in a put-and-take operation; however, even though the new USGS model is proposed to have transport capability, the cell size is too large to use the model to simulate flow between wells and defensibly predict residence times. Again, analytical methods might be used as a first cut.
- Groundwater Recharge: Consideration should be given to optimizing the management of the groundwater basin to create storage. Further detail on groundwater contamination and seawater intrusion issues will be necessary.
- Additional Production Wells (Section 2.6, Page 18): The narrative leading up to this section reads as if only IPR (i.e., groundwater injection using treated wastewater) is being considered. This section implies that existing production wells will be used for this concept. The Panel believes it is inconsistent with current regulations to use the same well for injection and production with recycled water.
- Additional Well Sites: The Work Plan should include a preliminary inventory of possible sites for the numerous injection and extraction wells necessary to inject and recover the water.
- Reliability Features (Section 2.8, page 19): The Panel suggests rewriting the paragraph to provide more clarity about project reliability.

### ***Section 3.0: Feasibility Criteria***

- The Panel noted that the work authorizations do not include a fatal flaw analysis for potable reuse; however, it is listed in Figure 1.
- The fatal flaw analysis should consider the treatment train and specific requirements of the Groundwater Recharge regulations.
- Please clarify how Oceanographic Factors #8 and #9 in Table 3.1 are relevant to recycled water.
- For Energy Use #13 in Table 3.1, does the City's 2012 Climate Action Plan provide for mitigation/offsets to meet the Plan's thresholds? Consider providing for this as a way to achieve comparable emissions between alternatives.

***Additional Recommendations:***

- If pursuing potable reuse, the City should begin outreach to the community about recycled water as a water supply option.
- The implications of using recycled water for brine dilution should be considered. This should include the environmental implications of discharging the mixed recycled water and brine to the ocean, as well as the reduction in wastewater volume that is available for recycling.

## APPENDIX A: PANEL BACKGROUND

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### About NWRI

For over 20 years, NWRI – a science-based 501c3 nonprofit located in Fountain Valley, California – has sponsored projects and programs to improve water quality, protect public health and the environment, and create safe, new sources of water. NWRI specializes in working with researchers across the country, such as laboratories at universities and water agencies, and are guided by a Research Advisory Board (representing national expertise in water, wastewater, and water reuse) and a six-member Board of Directors (representing water and wastewater agencies in Southern California).

Through NWRI's research program, NWRI supports multi-disciplinary research projects with partners and collaborators that pertain to treatment and monitoring, water quality assessment, knowledge management, and exploratory research. Altogether, NWRI's research program has produced over 300 publications and conference presentations.

NWRI also promotes better science and technology through extensive outreach and educational activities, which includes facilitating workshops and conferences and publishing White Papers, guidance manuals, and other informational material.

More information on NWRI can be found online at [www.nwri-usa.org](http://www.nwri-usa.org).

### About NWRI Panels

NWRI also specializes in facilitating Independent Advisory Panels on behalf of water and wastewater utilities, as well as local, county, and state government agencies, to provide credible, objective review of scientific studies and projects in the water industry. NWRI Panels consist of academics, industry professionals, government representatives, and independent consultants who are experts in their fields.

The NWRI Panel process provides numerous benefits, including:

- Third-party review and evaluation.
- Scientific and technical advice by leading experts.
- Assistance with challenging scientific questions and regulatory requirements.
- Validation of proposed project objectives.
- Increased credibility with stakeholders and the public.
- Support of sound public-policy decisions.

NWRI has extensive experience in developing, coordinating, facilitating, and managing expert Panels. Efforts include:

- Selecting individuals with the appropriate expertise, background, credibility, and level of commitment to serve as Panel members.



- Facilitating hands-on Panel meetings held at the project's site or location.
- Providing written report(s) prepared by the Panel that focus on findings and recommendations of various technical, scientific, and public health aspects of the project or study.

Over the past 5 years, NWRI has coordinated the efforts of over 20 Panels for water and wastewater utilities, city and state agencies, and consulting firms. Many of these Panels have dealt with projects or policies involving groundwater replenishment and potable (indirect and direct) reuse. Specifically, these Panels have provided peer review of a wide range of scientific and technical areas related water quality and monitoring, constituents of emerging concern, treatment technologies and operations, public health, hydrogeology, water reuse criteria and regulatory requirements, and outreach, among others.

More information about the NWRI Independent Advisory Panel Program can be found on the NWRI website at <http://nwri-usa.org/Panels.htm>.

## APPENDIX B: PANEL BIOGRAPHIES

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### **Amy Childress, Ph.D. (Chair)**

*Professor and Director of Environmental Engineering  
University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)*

Amy Childress has more than 20 years of experience researching membrane processes for water treatment, wastewater reclamation, and desalination. Most recently, she has investigated membrane contactor processes for innovative solutions to contaminant and energy challenges; pressure-driven membrane processes as industry standards for desalination and water reuse; membrane bioreactor technology; and colloidal and interfacial aspects of membrane processes. Dr. Childress has directed research funded by federal, state, and private agencies. Current research projects are funded by US Environmental Protection Agency, the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program, and California Department of Water Resources. Dr. Childress has received several awards including the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors Outstanding Publication Award and a National Science Foundation CAREER Award, and has served as President of the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors and an editorial board member for several journals. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles.

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### **Heather Collins, P.E.**

*Water Treatment Manager  
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)*

Heather Collins has more than 24 years of experience in water resource and treatment management. Currently she oversees the operation and maintenance of five water treatment plants with a total capacity of 2.6 billion gallons per day for Metropolitan Water District, a consortium of 26 cities and water districts that provide drinking water to nearly 19 million people. Prior to joining MWD, Ms. Collins served in the California Department of Public Health as Section Chief of the Drinking Water program. She is Vice Chair of the American Water Works Association (CA-NV Nevada Section) and is a past Chair for the Young Professionals Committee and Section Trustee. Ms. Collins currently serves as Delegate-at-Large on the Technical and Education Council, and liaison to the Water Utility Council, which reviews policy statements and develops regulatory and legislative initiatives for the Association. She holds a master's degree in Civil Engineering from Loyola Marymount University and an undergraduate degree in civil and environmental engineering from Cal State Polytechnic University in Pomona. She is a professional engineer and a Certified Water Treatment Operator in California.

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### **Martin B. Feeney, P.G., C.E.G., C.Hg.**

*Consulting Hydrogeologist (Santa Barbara, CA)*

Martin Feeney has more than 34 years of experience as a hydrogeologist. Since 1997 he has worked as an independent consulting hydrogeologist, providing services to water agencies,

private industry, and engineering firms. Previously he worked at several consulting firms including Staal, Gardner, & Dunne, Inc.; Fugro Wes, Inc.; and Balance Hydrologics, Inc., where he provided analysis of groundwater basins, developed groundwater flow and transport models, sited and designed municipal wells, developed injection wells/artificial recharge programs, and performed underground storage tank site assessment and remediation. Mr. Feeney's work in desalination has focused on development of subsurface seawater feedwater intakes, and his projects include: evaluation of subsurface intake feasibility for cities of Oxnard, Ventura, Marina and Monterey; design of the intake and reject disposal systems for the now-operational Sand City desalination facility; and development of feedwater wells on numerous Caribbean islands. He also is a member of the Hydrogeologic Working Group evaluating the proposed slant wells feedwater concept to support a 12 million gallon per day (MGD) desalination facility in the Monterey Bay area and previously sat on the Independent Scientific Technical Advisory Panel that reviewed subsurface feedwater concepts for the proposed 50 MGD desalination facility in Huntington Beach, California, for the Coastal Commission and Poseidon. Mr. Feeney received a BS in Earth Sciences from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and an MS in Environmental Planning from California State University.

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**Heidi Luckenbach, P.E.**

*Deputy Director/Engineering Manager  
City of Santa Cruz Water Department (Santa Cruz, CA)*

Heidi Luckenbach is a civil engineer with more than 20 years of experience in water supply planning, drinking water treatment, and distribution. She has worked for the City of Santa Cruz Water Department for 17 years. As Deputy Director, she manages engineering services for maintenance, operation, and improvement of the water utility, including long-range water supply planning. Ms. Luckenbach previously served as Desalination Program Coordinator for seven years, during which she developed and implemented the work plan for the scwd2 Regional Seawater Desalination Project. Program elements included a seawater desalination pilot study, evaluation of intake alternatives, analysis of brine dilution, comparison of water supply alternatives, and engagement with regulatory agencies. The 2.5-million gallon per day supplemental water supply would serve several communities in North Santa Cruz County. Luckenbach received her BS in Civil Engineering from California State University, Northridge, and an MS in Environmental Engineering from University of California, Los Angeles. She is a Registered Civil Engineer in California, serves as Vice Chair of the Desalination Committee for the California Nevada Section of American Water Works Association, and was recently a board member for the American Membrane Technology Association.

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**Eric Zigas**

*Director, Bay Area Water Group  
Environmental Science Associates (San Francisco, CA)*

Eric Zigas has more than 35 years of experience in water resources planning and management. Since joining ESA in 2002, he has focused on developing and evaluating water resource projects related to the supply, treatment and distribution of potable water, wastewater, and stormwater.

He has worked on Raising Los Vaqueros Dam for Contra Costa Water District, and the development of a water supply solution for the Monterey Peninsula. His work in desalination includes the Coastal Water Project Environmental Impact Report and the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project DEIR. Previously Mr. Zigas spent 22 years at EDAW Inc., (now AECOM), a global firm that specializes in urban planning and design, landscape architecture, economics, and cultural and environmental services, where he worked on water policy assignments and long range water supply plans. He holds a degree in Geography from SUNY at Buffalo.

# NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Technical Advisory Panel for  
City of Santa Barbara  
Subsurface Desalination Intake and  
Potable Reuse Feasibility Studies

**Meeting #1**  
**AGENDA**  
**Wednesday, August 5, 2015**

**LOCATION**

Santa Barbara City Hall  
Council Chambers Room and Room 15  
735 Anacapa Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

**CONTACTS**

Jeff Mosher, NWRI  
(714) 705-3722 (Mobile)  
Jaime Lumia, NWRI  
(714) 378-3278 (NWRI Office)

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**CLOSED SESSION with Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), City of Santa Barbara, and Carollo Engineers**  
**Begins 8:30 am in Council Chambers Room**

8:30 am	Welcome and Introductions	Jeff Mosher Executive Director, NWRI
8:40 am	Review Agenda and Meeting Objectives	Panel Chair
8:50 am	Discuss Work Plans on Subsurface Desalination Intake and Potable Reuse	Moderated by Panel Chair

**OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

**Begins 9:30 am in Council Chambers Room**

9:30 am	Welcome and Introductions	
9:45 am	Presentation on Work Plans on Subsurface Desalination Intake and Potable Reuse	City of Santa Barbara and Carollo Engineers
10:30 am	Questions from Technical Advisory Panel	Moderated by Panel Chair

11:00 am      Public Comments      Moderated by Jeff Mosher  
Executive Director, NWRI

**12:00 pm      OPEN SESSION ADJOURNS**

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**12:00 pm      LUNCH**

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**CLOSED SESSION (TAP Only)**

**Begins 1:00 pm in Room 15**

1:00 pm      Discussion on Subsurface Desalination Intake      Moderated by Panel Chair

**2:30 pm      BREAK**

2:45 pm      Discussion on Potable Reuse      Moderated by Panel Chair

**CLOSED SESSION with TAP, City of Santa Barbara, and Carollo Engineers**

**Begins 4:00 pm in Room 15**

4:00 pm      Briefing Session with City of Santa Barbara and  
Carollo Engineers      Moderated by Panel Chair

**4:30 pm      ADJOURN**

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## **APPENDIX D: MEETING ATTENDEES**

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### **Panel Members:**

- Chair: Amy Childress, Ph.D., University of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)
- Heather Collins, P.E., Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Los Angeles, CA)
- Martin B. Feeney, P.G., CHG, Consulting Hydrogeologist (Santa Barbara, CA)
- Heidi R. Luckenbach, P.E., City of Santa Cruz Water Department (Santa Cruz, CA) (on phone)
- Eric Zigas, Environmental Science Associates (San Francisco, CA)

### **National Water Research Institute:**

- Susanne Faubl, Water Resources Scientist and Project Manager
- Jeff Mosher, Executive Director
- Gina Vartanian, Outreach and Communications Manager

### **City of Santa Barbara:**

- Jason Bryan
- Kelley Dyer
- Joshua Haggmark
- Bob Roebuck
- Cathy Taylor

### **Carollo Engineers:**

- Eric Cherasia
- Tom Seacord

### **Sub-Consultants:**

- Jeff Barry, GSI
- Austin Melcher, Dudek
- Joe Monaco, Dudek
- Paul Sorensen, Fugro
- Tim Thompson, GSI

### **Others:**

- Alex Alonzo, Montecito Sanitary District
- Lindsey Baker, League of Women Votes Santa Barbara
- Jordan Clark, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Mariah Clegg, University of California, Santa Barbara
- Jeff Densmore, Division of Drinking Water, State Water Resources Control Board
- John Fletcherman
- Chris Gabriel, Goleta Water District
- Diane Gabriel, Montecito Sanitary District
- Diane Gatza, West Basin Municipal Water District

- Hillary Hauser, Heal the Ocean
- James Hawkins, Heal the Ocean
- Barry Keller, Santa Barbara Water Commission
- Robert Marks, Pueblo Water Resources
- Edward McGowan
- Warner Owens, Montecito Sanitary District
- Carrie Poytress, Stantec
- Kira Redmond, Santa Barbara Channelkeeper
- Monica Van Natta, Eurofins Eaton Analytical
- Brian Villalobos, GEOSCIENCE Support Services, Inc.