

Staff Report

for the Board of Directors' Meeting of January 25, 2017

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Chip Close, Water Operations Manager

DATE: January 4, 2017

SUBJECT: Yuba/Bear River Watershed Sanitary Survey Presentation

OPERATIONS

RECOMMENDATION:

Hear a presentation from Bonnie Starr of Starr Consulting Services regarding the 2017 Yuba/Bear River Watershed Sanitary Survey update.

BACKGROUND:

The Surface Water Treatment Rule (SWTR) requires the District to conduct a Watershed Sanitary Survey (WSS) on an ongoing basis. The objective of the WSS is to assess the source water quality of the Yuba/Bear River to ensure the ability of the existing water treatment plants to continue to provide their customers with drinking water that meets all drinking water standards.

The District and Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) share the Yuba and Bear River Watersheds as a source of supply and have jointly conducted the 1996 Survey, the 2002 Update, and the 2012 Update. The 2017 Update is under process and has once again been shared between the agencies.

The 2017 Update is intended to accomplish the following objectives:

- Fulfillment of the California SWTR and the Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (IESWTR) requirements that surface water agencies conduct a sanitary survey of the source watershed once every five years. Any significant changes within the last five years that affect source water quality are to be identified in each update. In addition, it is required to comment on the appropriate level of treatment for pathogens, specifically for *Giardia*, viruses, and *Cryptosporidium*.

- Review and evaluate selected constituents of interest to identify potential water quality or treatment issues at each water treatment plant. Assess the ability of the water treatment plants to meet standards based on current and future regulatory framework. Develop recommendations for treatment plant actions to address water quality or treatment issues and/or address planning needs to meet expected future regulations.
- Review and evaluate selected potential contaminating activities to identify impacts on source water quality. Determine whether it may be useful to conduct additional monitoring to further assess contaminant levels in the source water or contaminants from a particular watershed source.
- Identify appropriate watershed management actions to protect and possibly improve source water quality. Develop recommendations for watershed management actions that are economically feasible and within the authority of the participating water agencies to implement. Of importance is to target contaminant activities that are most likely to affect source water quality, such as activities located near the water treatment plants or activities that are predominant in the watershed.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

The estimated cost of \$100,000 for completion of the study was split 50/50 with PCWA. Currently the cost of the project is under the budgeted allotment.

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