

Bay Delta Advisory Council
Finance Work Group
Meeting Summary
January 29, 1997

Major Discussion Items

- **1997 Schedule**

Randall Neudeck expressed his concern that the schedule for discussions and decisions for the group was not clear. Zach McReynolds reviewed the proposed 1997 work plan, and identified when events were expected to take place. In general the group would like better information as to upcoming events and decision points.

- **Identification of Benefits**

Steve Yaeger presented an overview of the benefits evaluation process that the Program envisions using during Phase II. He indicated that benefits have only been identified at the conceptual level to date, but that additional information would be available within the next few months as component integration takes place.

The group expressed concern over the usefulness of discussing issues at the conceptual level. Tom Maddock suggested that using any quantitative example, even with hypothetical numbers, was more productive than a conceptual discussion. Steve Yaeger responded that if the group made apparent progress without good numbers, then they would have to start over when actual numbers became available. He suggested that the group try to address those issues that can be tackled with conceptual information first.

The group generally agreed to wait for the case study to determine if productive discussions could be held given the available level of detail.

- **Cost Effectiveness**

Amy Fowler expressed concern that costs and benefits were not being discussed in the development of the Water Quality component. Zach McReynolds responded that although there may not be explicit discussions, such concepts were being incorporated into the components by the experts involved in component refinement.

For example, Water Quality experts are selecting which constituents to focus on based on their professional judgment of which ones create the highest benefits. The selection of levels of control recognizes the cost tradeoff of raising the level of control for any

given constituent. The experts are recommending levels of control based on their intuitive judgments about the resulting costs and benefits.

- **Attendance**

BDAC Members

Eric Hasseltine, Chair
Roberta Borgonovo
Bob Raab
Ray Remy
Tom Maddock

Other Attendees

Amy Fowler, SCVWD
Arnold Rummelsburg, WR-MWSD
Craig Stroh, USBR
Randall Neudeck, MWDSC
Lora Steere, EBMUD
David Yardas, EDF
Ray Hoagland, DWR
Wendy Illingworth, Foster & Associates
Carol Thornton, DOI
David Yardas, EDF
Steve Yaeger, CALFED
Jaime Roberts, MWDSC
Will Betchart, {NA}
Elizabeth Patterson, Friends of the Estuary
Teresa Pacheco, USACOE