

**SACRAMENTO CENTRAL GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
CALIFORNIA**

For the Agenda of:
November 14, 2007

**APPROVED
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Date 11/14/07

By Michelle Fiorino

Clerk of the Board

To: Board of Directors
Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority

From: Staff

Subject: Resolution Authorizing Submittal Of An Application To The California Department of Water Resources For A Local Groundwater Assistance Grant Pursuant To The Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal And Beach Protection Act Of 2002 (AB 303)

Contact: Darrell Eck, Executive Director, 874-5039

Overview

The Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (Authority) has adopted a groundwater management plan to maintain a sustainable, high-quality groundwater resource for the users of the Central Basin. Further development and improvement of the Authority's Data Management System is critical to the implementation of the Basin Management Objectives which are key to successfully managing and monitoring the basin to the benefit of all groundwater users within the Central Basin. Grant money from the California Department of Water Resources Local Groundwater Assistance Program will assist the Authority in implementing this critical program.

Recommendations

1. Authorize application for the AB 303 grant.
2. Designate the Executive Director of the Authority, or his designee, as the authorized representative to enter into an agreement with the State for the AB 303 grant.

Fiscal Impact

Development of the AB 303 Grant Application will be through a contract with WRIME, Inc. approved by the AB 303 Subcommittee on November 5, 2007. Granted funds, if awarded, will provided \$250,000 in funding for the Data Management System.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the Groundwater Management Element of the Water Forum Agreement the Central Sacramento County Groundwater Forum (Groundwater Forum) was formed in August 2001 and held its first stakeholder meeting in February 2002. The Groundwater Forum consisted of stakeholder interests in the central county area, including ranchers, farmers, businesses, community and environmental interests, local governments, water purveyors, and agricultural/residential groundwater users. Through a collaborative process, the mission of the Groundwater Forum was to develop recommendations designed to protect the health and viability of the central Sacramento County groundwater basin as a sustainable resource for both current users and future generations.

In February 2006 the Central Sacramento County Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) was completed and accepted by the Groundwater Forum. The GMP reviews current and future water supply and demands and contains basin management objectives (BMOs) that address the rate of groundwater extraction, groundwater elevation, land surface subsidence, surface water flows and groundwater contamination. The GMP also contains “trigger points” and remedies to ensure full implementation of the BMOs. It also provides for the protection of groundwater wells and establishes cooperative relationships with Sacramento County’s Environmental Management Department and other regulatory agencies to address groundwater contamination.

On August 29, 2006 the Cities of Folsom, Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova and Sacramento and the County of Sacramento executed a joint powers agreement creating the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (Authority). The purpose of the Authority is to maintain the long-term sustainable yield of the Central Basin; ensure implementation of the BMOs that are prescribed by the GMP; oversee the operation of any Well Protection Program that may be prescribed by the GMP; manage the use of groundwater in the Central Basin and facilitate implementation of an appropriate conjunctive use program by water purveyors; coordinate efforts among those entities represented on the governing body of the joint powers authority to devise and implement strategies to safeguard groundwater quality; and work collaboratively with other entities, including the Sacramento Groundwater Authority, the Southeast Sacramento County Agriculture Water Authority and other groundwater management authorities that may be formed in the County of Sacramento and adjacent political jurisdictions, in order to promote coordination of policies and activities throughout the region.

On November 8, 2006 the Board of the Authority adopted the GMP.

DISCUSSION

Implementation of the BMOs described in the GMP requires a monitoring program that, when fully operational, will be capable of assessing the current status of the basin and predicting responses in the basin that are a result of future management actions. The Central Basin monitoring program includes collection of groundwater elevation data, groundwater quality data, monitoring and assessing the potential for land surface subsidence resulting from groundwater extraction, and developing a better understanding of the relationship between surface water and

groundwater along the American, Cosumnes, and Sacramento rivers. In order for the Authority to achieve these objectives it is essential to have a fully functional data storage and analysis tool.

During development of the GMP a public domain application called the Data Management System (DMS) was identified as a means for the Authority to organize and analyze data collected in the Central Basin. Data to populate the DMS includes: well construction details; known locations of groundwater contamination and potential contaminating activities, long-term monitoring data, and aquifer characteristics based on well completion reports.

The Local Groundwater Management Assistance Act of 2000 (California Water Code Section 10795 *et seq.* (Assembly Bill 303)) was enacted to provide grants to local public agencies to conduct groundwater studies or to carry out groundwater monitoring and management activities. The Authority plans to apply for a grant of \$250,000 under the Act to assist in the development of the DMS.

Respectfully submitted,



Darrell K. Eck, Executive Director
Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority

Attachment: Resolution

cc: Susan Purdin, Ted Thatcher - SCGA

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-03

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR A LOCAL GROUNDWATER ASSISTANCE GRANT PURSUANT TO THE WATER SECURITY, CLEAN DRINKING WATER, COASTAL AND BEACH PROTECTION ACT OF 2002

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2006 the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (AUTHORITY) was formed through a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the City of Elk Grove, the City of Folsom, the City of Rancho Cordova, the City of Sacramento and the County of Sacramento.; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the AUTHORITY is to maintain the long-term sustainable yield of the Central Basin; ensure implementation of the Basin Management Objectives prescribed in the Groundwater Management Plan; oversee the operation of a Well Protection Program; manage the use of groundwater in the Central Basin and facilitate implementation of an appropriate conjunctive use program by water purveyors; coordinate efforts among those entities represented on the governing body of the AUTHORITY to devise and implement strategies to safeguard groundwater quality; and to work collaboratively with other entities in order to promote coordination of groundwater policies and activities throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the AUTHORITY adopted the Central Sacramento County Groundwater Management Plan (CSCGMP) on November 8, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the CSCGMP reviews current and future water supply and demands, contains basin management objectives (BMO) addressing rate of groundwater extraction, groundwater elevations, land subsidence, surface water flows and groundwater contamination; and

WHEREAS, the CSCGMP also contains “trigger points” and remedies to ensure full implementation of the BMOs; and

WHEREAS, on-going development and improvement to the AUTHORITY’s Data Management System is critical to the successful implementation of the CSCGMP and of managing and monitoring the basin to the benefit of all groundwater users in the Central Basin as described in said BMOs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Groundwater Management Assistance Act of 2000 (California Water Code Section 10795 *et seq.* (Assembly Bill 303)) was enacted to provide grants to local public agencies to conduct groundwater studies or to carry out groundwater monitoring and management activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the AUTHORITY as follows:

1. That application be made to the California Department of Water Resources for a Local Groundwater Assistance Grant pursuant to the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Water Code Section 79560 *et seq.*), and to enter into an agreement to receive a grant for the Comprehensive Update of the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority's Data Management System, and
2. The AUTHORITY finds and determines that the Executive Director of the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority is hereby authorized to do and perform everything reasonable, convenient, and necessary to carry out the purpose and intent of this Resolution.

Resolution Authorizing Submittal of an Application to the California Department of Water Resources for a Local Groundwater Assistance Grant Pursuant to the Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002

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ON A MOTION by Director Sadler, seconded by Director Bettis, the foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority, State of California, this 14, day of November, 2007 with the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Directors, Korhonen, Sadler, Stricker, van Steyn, Bettis, Smith, Crouse, Robles, Fort

NOES: Directors,

ABSENT: Directors, Johnson, Niederberger, Havener, Helfand, Lowry, Soule

ABSTAIN: Directors,

(S E A L)




Chair of the Board of Directors of the
Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority

ATTEST: Michelle Fiorino
Clerk of the Board of the Authority