

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
DECEMBER 11, 2014

ITEM:	9
SUBJECT:	INTRODUCTION OF THE DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER
PURPOSE:	This is an information item to introduce the Division of Drinking Water to the Board.
RECOMMENDATION:	There is no recommendation as this is an information item and the Board will take no action.
KEY ISSUES:	<p>As of July 1, 2014, the administration of the Drinking Water Program (DWP) has transferred from the Department of Public Health to the State Water Resources Control Board. This transfer of responsibility aligns California's drinking water and water quality programs in an integrated organizational structure to best position the State to both effectively protect water quality and the public health as it relates to water quality, while meeting current needs and future demands on water supplies.</p>
PRACTICAL VISION:	<p>A key tenet of the San Diego Water Board's Practical Vision is to ensure effective communication is occurring with all collaborators, responsible parties and interested persons. We are smarter together and therefore we seek to learn from and share information with all those with a stake in achieving our Mission. This item affords an excellent opportunity to realize that objective.</p> <p>Chapter 5 of the Practical Vision seeks to achieve a sustainable local water supply. Given our hydrologic location and increasing population, having sufficient potable water is a growing concern. One evolving source involves the purification of waste water to augment local and imported supplies. Indirect and Direct Potable Reuse are likely to become a large percentage of our water supply portfolio. While the San Diego Water Board has jurisdiction over the quality of water discharged to any reservoir, the Division of Drinking Water is responsible for regulations that dictate many of the parameters necessary for purified waste water to be introduced into the potable supply system. Today's conversation affords an opportunity to explore the status of our local water supply and the leadership the Division of Drinking Water brings to the issue.</p>

DISCUSSION:

The Administration had proposed to transfer the Drinking Water Program from the Department of Public Health to the State Water Resources Control Board on July 1, 2014. This proposal is described in a White Paper circulated in the summer of 2013, which is included as Supporting Document No. 1.

The California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Health and Human Services Agency held a public meeting on January 15, 2014 to obtain input on the proposed transfer, and the Drinking Water Reorganization Task Force released their summary on February 5, 2014. This summary is included as Supporting Document No. 2

The Secretary for Environmental Health Protection and the Secretary of Health and Human Services used input from the Drinking Water Reorganization Task Force and January 15, 2014. The transition plan released in March is included as Supporting Document No. 3. Cindy Forbes, Director of the new Division of Drinking Water, will introduce her responsibilities and priorities.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Drinking Water Reorganization White Paper 2013.
2. Drinking Water Reorganization Task Force Summary Document, February 5, 2014.
3. Drinking Water Reorganization Transition Plan, March 2014.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

The agenda notice for today's meeting was posted on the San Diego Water Board's website and sent to those subscribed to the email list for San Diego Water Board meetings.