

# *Role of the UWMP in City Planning – and How a WSA Fits In*

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# Who am I and Why am I here?

- President, Impact Sciences, Inc.
- Impact Sciences is an environmental consulting firm I co-founded in 1988. Offices in Southern and Northern California.
- I now focus my consulting practice on water resources and have prepared water supply and demand studies for many projects of substantial size and complexity over the past 15 years. I have also prepared many Water Supply Assessments (WSAs) since the passage of SB610.
- As it goes these days with water in California, where the courts are often the arbiter over water controversies, our work is “battle tested.”



# Who am I and Why am I here?

- Impact Sciences has an excellent record of success in legal settings.
- I have been asked to help you understand how UWMPs and WSAs are used by local governments as part of their decision-making processes on general plans, specific plans and public and private development projects.
- Please stop me when ever you have a question.
- We have much to cover in 20 minutes.



# What is Your *Issue*?

- Let's face it. Something about growth bugs most of us at some point, doesn't it?
- What's your issue:
  - Noise
  - Traffic
  - Air Quality
  - Sign twirlers on the street corner?
- Believe it or not, for a few people it's **water**...



# We Face Challenges

- **Substantial growth** in the State of California is projected by the State Department of Finance, and there is no end in sight.
- The challenge facing water agencies, public agencies, planners and project proponents is to **identify and secure the sources of water** needed for the inevitable increase in population.



# Necessary Questions

- Ask and answer the following questions:
  - **How much** water is needed (i.e., existing water demand)?
  - **When** will the water be needed (i.e., projected water demand)?
  - **From where** will the water come (i.e., existing and projected water supply sources)?

# Topic Overview

- **Information** is power
- UWMPs and WSAs are **informational documents**
- They are used by many, and I'll focus just on their **role in land use planning**



# What is a UWMP?

- Required under *California Water Code Division 6, Part 2.6. Urban Water Management Planning* (see *Water Code §§ 10610-10657*). [The UWMP Act]
- Due to DWR by **July 1, 2011**
- Prepared by California's urban water suppliers to
  - support their long-term resource planning and
  - ensure adequate water supplies are available to meet existing and future water demands.



# What is a UWMP?

- Every urban water supplier that either provides over 3,000 acre-feet of water annually or serves more than 3,000 or more connections is required to assess the reliability of its water sources over a 20-year planning horizon considering normal, dry, and multiple dry years.
- This assessment is to be included in its UWMP, which is to be prepared every 5 years and submitted to DWR.
- DWR then reviews the submitted plans to make sure they have completed the requirements identified in the UWMP Act.



# Recent Law Changes

- Governor Schwarzenegger, in his 20x2020 Plan, determined that for California to continue to have enough water support its growing population, it needs to **reduce the amount of water each person uses** per day (in gallons per capita per day).
- This **reduction of 20 percent per capita use** by the year 2020 is supported by legislation passed in November 2009 [SB x 7 7](#) ([Steinberg](#)). Water conservation.



# 2010 UWMP Guidebook

- The *Guidebook to Assist Water Suppliers in the Preparation of a 2010 Urban Water Management Plan*, also referred to as the 2010 UWMP Guidebook, is currently being prepared.
- Its schedule is tied to the October 1, 2010 release of the [SBX7.7 methods and methodologies](#), which provide guidance to Urban Water Suppliers in developing Per Capita Base Daily Water Use and Urban Water Use and Interim Targets (excluding Method 4), and are to be reported in the 2010 UWMPs.
- The 2010 UWMP Guidebook is being released in two stages.
  - A **draft** version will be released in **early November**. This version of the 2010 UWMP Guidebook will use the methodologies to provide detailed direction to Urban Water Suppliers.
  - The **final** version of the 2010 UWMP Guidebook will be released **in January**.



# SBX7 7 Methods and Methodologies

From the SBx7-7 Legislation 10608.20(h)(1) and (2)

- DWR through a public process and in consultation with the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) shall develop
  - technical methodologies and criteria for **baseline daily per capita use**,
  - baseline commercial, industrial, and institutional water use,
  - **compliance** daily per capita water use,
  - gross **water use**,
  - service area **population**,
  - **indoor residential** water use and **landscaped area water use**, and
  - post on its website.
- DWR released *Methodologies for Calculating Baseline and Compliance Urban Per Capita Water Use*, October 1, 2010



# Important Dates for Water Suppliers

- **UWMPs are required to be submitted to DWR on July 1, 2011** (California Water Code §10608.20).
- **60-days prior to the Review/Adoption Hearing:** A hearing is required prior to adoption of an UWMP. Any city or county within which a water supplier delivers water is to be notified at least 60 days prior to the hearing that the UWMP is being reviewed (CWC §10621).
- **Prior to adopting a plan:** The urban water supplier shall make the plan available for public inspection. *Note - specific dates or length of time are not indicated.*



# Important Dates for Water Suppliers

- **30-days after Adoption:** Submit the UWMP to DWR, the California State Library, and any city or county within which it supplies water. Copies of any changes or amendments also have to be submitted within 30 days.
- **30-days after Submission to DWR:** Provide a copy of the UWMP for public review during normal business hours.
- **60-days after Submission to DWR:** Provide the applicable portions of the UWMP to any city or county within which the supplier provides water.



# Purpose of a WSA

Answer the basic question:

*Will the water supplier's total projected water supplies available during **normal, single dry, and multiple dry** water years during a **20-year projection** meet the projected water demand of the proposed project, in addition to the water supplier's **existing and planned future uses**, including agricultural and manufacturing uses?*



# How Planners Use UWMP and WSA

- For certain “projects” meeting the definitions under SB610/221, a city or county evaluating the environmental effects of that project must **request a WSA** from the water provider or prepare the WSA on its own.
- A **WSA** can rely on an adopted and DWR-approved **UWMP**.



# How Planners Use UWMP and WSA

- A UWMP is a **foundational document** for compliance with both **SB 610** and **SB 221**.
- Both of these statutes repeatedly identify the UWMP as a **planning document** that, if properly prepared, can be used by a water supplier to meet the standards set forth in both statutes.
- Thorough and complete UWMPs will allow water suppliers to use UWMPs as a foundation **to fulfill the specific requirements of these two statutes**.



# How Planners Use UWMP and WSA

- Cities, counties, water districts, property owners, and developers will all be able to utilize the UWMP when planning for and proposing new projects.
- UWMPs serve as important source documents for cities and counties as they update their General Plan.
- Conversely General Plans are source documents as water suppliers update their UWMPs. These planning documents are linked and their accuracy and usefulness are interdependent. It is crucial that cities /counties and water suppliers work closely when developing and updating these planning documents.



# CEQA and Water Provider Role

- Prepared by a public water supplier at the request of a city or county as part of a project review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- A city or county (the Lead Agency) requests a WSA after it has determined that an EIR, negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration is required.



# CEQA and Water Providers Role

- If the water provider fails to provide the assessment within 90 days, the city or county may seek a writ of mandamus to compel the water provider to comply.
- The **Lead Agency incorporates the WSA into its environment document.**
  - Lead Agency **then conducts its own analysis** relying on the WSA findings.



# Useful References

- The California Department of Water Resources
  - “2010 UWMP Guidebook and Schedule” available November 1, 2010
    - <http://www.water.ca.gov/urbanwatermanagement/>
  - “Urban Water Management Planning Act” for contents of UWMP
    - <http://www.water.ca.gov/urbanwatermanagement/docs/UWMPAct.pdf>
  - “Guidebook for Implementation of SB 610 and SB 221,” October 2003.
    - DWR's 610/SB 332 Guidebook can be obtained from DWR's website: <http://www.water.ca.gov/wateruseefficiency/publications/>. See "SB 610/221 Guidebook"



# Useful References

- Guidebook was prepared for ACWA
  - "Water Supply & Development: A User's Guide to California Statutes including SB 221 (Kuehel) & SB 610 (Costa)," 2002.
    - Available for purchase from ACWA in Sacramento.



# Copies of this Presentation

- Will be posted on the ACWA website @  
“[www.acwa.com](http://www.acwa.com)”
- Provide me with your contact information and we will send or email it to you

# Any Questions?