To: CN=Karen Schwinn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US[]
Cc: CN=Jane Diamond/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Laura Yoshii/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=William Glenn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Laura Yoshii/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=William Glenn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=William Glenn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]
Bcc: []
From: CN=Alexis Strauss/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Tue 9/8/2009 4:54:59 PM
Subject: Bay Delta Meeting This Morning at CEQ

I had not heard of it either...I am happy to be the principal, and will default to you if we have schedule conflicts.

From: Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US
To: Laura Yoshii/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Alexis Strauss/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: William Glenn/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Jane Diamond/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 09/04/2009 12:27 PM
Subject: Fw: Bay Delta Meeting This Morning at CEQ

I hadn't heard about this latest meeting. Had you? It appears these now-weekly meetings will be just the DC participants. I will ask our OW folks to try to check in with us before they go each week. And I'll prepare them and the "next steps" outlined below.

Who shall I say is our "principal"?

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KAREN SCHWINN
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415/947-3537 (fax)
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----- Forwarded by Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US on 09/04/2009 12:16 PM -----

From: Robert Wood/DC/USEPA/US
To: Peter Silva/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Mike Shapiro/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Gregory Peck/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Alexis Strauss/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Paul Cough/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Suzanne Schwartz/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Tanya Code/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Darrell Brown/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 09/04/2009 12:13 PM
Subject: Bay Delta Meeting This Morning at CEQ

Pete:

I represented you at this morning's CEQ meeting on Bay Delta and wanted to give a quick report out with copies to appropriate parties. You'll see immediate actions and next steps below. In my view, the most immediate next step for EPA is to identify EPA HQ and Region 9 principals and lead staff and let Mike Boots know if our HQ principal can make it to a CEQ meeting Wednesday 9/9 or Thursday 9/10. Please let me know if you have any questions. In the interest of quickly circulating information, I'm copying several folks in OW, OWOW and Region 9.

Rob

Chair: Mike Boots, Assoc. Dir. Land and Water Ecosystems, CEQ

Attendees:
Jo Ellen Darcy, ASA for Civil works
Rock Salt, Deputy ASA
John Hurley, Army
Letty Belin, Counselor to Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Hayes
Mike Connor, commissioner Bureau of Reclamation
Monica Medina, Senior Advisor to NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco
Robert Wood, EPA (on behalf of Pete Silva)
Robert Bonnie, Senior Advisor for Environment and Climate to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack (Could not attend).

Purpose: To discuss federal re-engagement in Bay Delta. This was the first of regular weekly meetings at this level on state and federal activities and how to best structure and pursue federal agency work in the Bay Delta.

Major Points and Outcomes: The agencies, under CEQ leadership will begin work on a Memorandum of Understanding that will articulate the means for interagency coordination and substantive, coordinated actions the agencies will take in Bay Delta. Target signature date in September 30, 2009. Nancy Sutley is interested in developing a set of concrete coordinated federal actions to help manage and resolve the intersecting Bay Delta issues including water supply, drought, water conservation, water quality and ecosystem restoration, habitat conservation, agricultural irrigation and public safety. CEQ and Interior had preliminary discussions about preparing an MOU to begin the process. Attendees agreed to pursue this approach. Signatories agencies would be: EPA, Army, Interior, NOAA, and USDA.

Next Meeting: CEQ intends to schedule the next meeting for Wednesday, 9/9 or or Thursday 9/10 with the same agencies present. This would be the next in a series of intended weekly meetings.

Prep for Next Meeting: Letty Belin will distribute a rough draft outline for the MOU next week in advance of next week's meeting. The outline will be based roughly based on the Interagency MOU from some years ago on Everglades restoration. In the meantime, the agencies were asked to caucus with regions for input for the draft MOU.

Immediate Actions and Next Steps:

1. Identify EPA HQ Principal: My thoughts are Pete Silva or Bob Perciasepe.
2. Identify EPA Regional principal: Karen Schwinn? Alexis Strauss?
3. Identify HQ and Regional lead staff persons: ?
4. Caucus with Region 9 in advance of next week's meeting to:
    A. Identify current EPA activities on Bay Delta--characterize current federal and state coordination on these activities
    B. Characterize how EPA current activities might fit into MOU
    C. Identify what we believe to be biggest opportunities for coordinated federal/state actions in Bay Delta

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Additional Information:

- Deputy Interior Secretary David Hayes and Director California Department of Water Resources Lester Snow hosted a public meeting on Bay Delta in Sacramento in August. 300-400 were in attendance
- Next joint State-Federal meeting is scheduled for September 30 in DC. Agenda to include: climate change adaptation and seismic forecasts and related issues.
- Jo Ellen Darcy and Rock salt will be visiting Bay Delta for a tour September 16, 17 or 18.
- Recent letter from Governor to Secretaries of Commerce and the Interior criticizing federal agencies for failing to resolve conflicting science and policy in and blaming agencies for looming crisis.
- Strong responses for Secretaries seen as an important beginning of correct message that water demand and related ecological collapse have been years in the making.
- CA Legislature is active right now.
- Recent "Delta Vision" Report and anticipated Bay Delta Conservation Plan report represent important efforts that content of MOU should compliment.

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