To: CN=Tom Hagler/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]
Cc: []
Bcc: []
From: CN=Alexis Strauss/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Tue 9/8/2009 6:14:04 PM
Subject: Fw: Bay Delta Meeting This Morning at CEQ

more churn...
----- Forwarded by Alexis Strauss/R9/USEPA/US on 09/08/2009 11:13 AM -----

From: Laura Yoshii/R9/USEPA/US
To: William Glenn
Cc: Alexis Strauss, Karen Schwinn
Date: 09/08/2009 11:12 AM
Subject: Fw: Bay Delta Meeting This Morning at CEQ

Please request that OW keep me informed of CEQ meetings and we can figure out who should participate from this end. --Laura

Laura Kimi Yoshii
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----- Forwarded by Laura Yoshii/R9/USEPA/US on 09/08/2009 11:10 AM -----

From: Robert Wood/DC/USEPA/US
To: mboots@ceq.eop.gov
Cc: Peter Silva/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Laura Yoshii/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Schwinn/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Roger Gorke/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Mike Shapiro/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Macara Lousberg/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Suzanne Schwartz/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Gregory Peck/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 09/08/2009 09:02 AM
Subject: Fw: Bay Delta Meeting This Morning at CEQ

Hi Mike:

Pete Silva let me know he intends to be the EPA Headquarters principal for the Bay Delta meetings at CEQ. He also identified Laura Yoshi as the EPA Region 9 principal. I'm awaiting confirmation on the staff POCs and will make sure that information gets to you. For scheduling purposes, Pete Silva's scheduler is Lori Keyton (keyton.lori@epa.gov, 202-564-5768). Meanwhile, I thought you might benefit from having the brief meeting summary below.

Regards,

Rob Wood
_____
Acting Deputy Director
Office of Wetlands Oceans and Watersheds
Room 7130A EPA West
202-566-1822

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. Signatorie 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
2. Identify EPA Regional principal
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 in 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 and blaming agencies for looming crisis.
- Strong responses from 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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