To: Li, Corine[Li.Corine@epa.gov]
From: Albright, David
Sent: Wed 1/10/2018 4:04:35 PM
Subject: RE: Summary of priorities for all hands presentation

Hi Corine – here are some talking points for the two items below

AZ Copper Mining Permits

- In 2018, we will continue our efforts on two UIC permits for in-situ leach copper mining in AZ.
- The Florence Copper permit, which was originally issued in late 2016, survived a challenge to the EAB, and is now being appealed to the federal 9th Circuit. We are working closely with ORC/DOJ to defend the permit (initial case briefings are due in Feb/March) and we are also coordinating with OW as the 9th circuit appeal raises some challenging aquifer exemption policy issues.
- The Excelsior UIC permit was proposed in October 2017. Unlike Florence Copper, which is only seeking authorization for a small scale, short-term pilot project, Excelsior's permit would authorize commercial scale copper mining for a 20-year production period. In 2018, we expect to complete the public comment process, which may involve a public hearing, and make a final permit decision in the Spring.
- Both of these copper mining projects also require an Aquifer Protection Permit from ADEQ, and ADEQ is now actively seeking primacy for the UIC program.

Aquifer Exemptions in California

- Since late 2014, EPA has been working closely with CA Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) and the State Board to ensure that CA's Class II UIC program is in compliance with the SDWA.
- A significant component of this compliance effort is the state's development and submittal of aquifer exemption requests for dozens of oilfield areas.
- Out of an estimated 32 aquifer exemptions the state is working on, they have submitted 8 to EPA and EPA has approved 6. In 2018, we anticipate another 10-15 formal submittals from the state for EPA consideration.
- Also, many of the more challenging aquifer exemption requests are likely to be advanced this year by the state.

Let me know if you have questions.

Thanks!

David

From: Li, Corine
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2018 4:15 PM
To: Albright, David <Albright.David@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Summary of priorities for all hands presentation

David

Might you have proposed talking points that you would like me to use for the two UIC items listed below?

AZ Copper Mining Permits

Aquifer Exemptions

From: Li, Corine
Sent: Monday, January 08, 2018 5:18 PM
To: Albright, David <Albright.David@epa.gov>; Eberhardt, Doug <Eberhardt.Doug@epa.gov>; Brush, Jason <Brush.Jason@epa.gov>; Sablad, Elizabeth <Sablad.Elizabeth@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Summary of priorities for all hands presentation

I would be most appreciative if you could provide me with potential talking points for each of the bulleted items listed below that serve as WTR-3's noteworthy priorities for FY18.

From: Li, Corine
Sent: Monday, January 08, 2018 1:07 PM
To: Woo, Nancy <Woo.Nancy@epa.gov>; Amato, Paul <Amato.Paul@epa.gov>
Cc: Hashimoto, Janet <Hashimoto.Janet@epa.gov>; Smith, DavidW <Smith.DavidW@epa.gov>; Louis, Gail <Louis.Gail@epa.gov>; Ziegler, Sam <Ziegler.Sam@epa.gov>; Albright, David <Albright.David@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Summary of priorities for all hands presentation

Here is the highlights for the Tribal, State and Assistance Branch (two slides with pictures would be ideal). I am available to assist with PPT slides.

- Advancing State Small Drinking Water System Plans
- Lead and Copper Rule Implementation Reviews
- Arizona copper mining permits
- Aquifer Exemptions

- $20M in tribal water/wastewater infrastructure projects
- Improved program management of Hawaii SRF
- Minimize US-Mexico Border transboundary sewage flows
- Approval of Treatment as State (TAS) Applications

From: Woo, Nancy
Sent: Monday, January 08, 2018 12:30 PM
To: Amato, Paul <Amato.Paul@epa.gov>
Cc: Hashimoto, Janet <Hashimoto.Janet@epa.gov>; Smith, DavidW <Smith.DavidW@epa.gov>; Louis, Gail <Louis.Gail@epa.gov>; Ziegler, Sam <Ziegler.Sam@epa.gov>; Li, Corine <Li.Corine@epa.gov>; Albright, David <Albright.David@epa.gov>
Subject: Summary of priorities for all hands presentation

Hi Paul,

Sorry for the last minute change of approach.

Highlights by State:

Arizona

Regional PPG

Coordination on wetland regulatory program assumption (CWA 404 program assumption).

NPDES storm water permits current

Nevada

Lake Tahoe invasive species/source waters/lake clarity concerns

(NPDES permit current for NDEP given the management transition)

Hawaii

HDOH Clean Water Branch Clean Water program evaluation – mutual Identification of performance challenges and solutions with special emphasis on the NPDES program

California

State-wide Water Quality Standards for bacteria, toxicity and sediment quality

Bay Delta Phase I Water Quality Criteria

5 year new CCMP for Santa Monica Bay NDEP

R9-wide

Storm water, wastewater technical capacity building (technical, financial, asset management, storm water capture and re-use)

Significant NPDES permit issuance, (SF Oceanside, Guam MS4, Navajo 4 Corners Power Plant and American Samoa 301(h).

Let me know what you think.

Thanks,

nw

Nancy Woo

Assistant Director, Water Division

U.S. EPA, Region 9

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