



SOUTHERN NEVADA
WATER AUTHORITY

Integrated Water Planning Advisory Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT

September 26, 2005

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Integrated Water Planning Advisory Committee Recommendations Report

Background

From its inception, the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) has emphasized long-term planning in its water resource development and management. The SNWA Water Resource Plan, first produced in 1996, discusses the supply-and-demand conditions, resources, projects and other issues that guide this long-term planning. The SNWA regularly evaluates these issues and updates the plan accordingly. This continual review and adjustment allows the SNWA to implement additional water supplies and associated infrastructure for Southern Nevada only as they are needed, without building more facilities than is necessary or incurring unnecessary costs.

Over the past five years, the record-breaking drought conditions in the Colorado River Basin have reduced the projected availability of near-term water resources such as Interim Surplus Colorado River water. The drought also has underscored the need for Southern Nevada to begin accessing undeveloped, non-Colorado River water supplies within the SNWA water resource portfolio. In response, the SNWA took steps in 2003-04 to accelerate the scheduled development of three separate in-state water projects: the Three Lakes Valley Groundwater Development Project; Virgin and Muddy Rivers Surface Water Development Project; and Clark, Lincoln and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project.

Accelerating the schedules for three different in-state water projects involves a number of steps for each project, including the processing of right-of-way applications, assessment of environmental impacts, permitting of water rights (where applicable), and coordination of various management, operational and financing issues. To address these issues in a comprehensive way, the SNWA initiated an integrated water planning (IWP) process in early 2004. As part of its IWP process, the SNWA convened a 29-member stakeholder group to provide input on how to integrate in-state water resources into the current planning and management activities of the SNWA.

This stakeholder group, known as the Integrated Water Planning Advisory Committee (IWPAC), met 13 times between August 2004 and September 2005. The committee process consisted of three phases – education, evaluation of resource options and formulation of recommendations. Committee meetings were broadcast to seven remote locations in Nye, Lincoln, White Pine and northern Clark counties, where comments were taken from rural residents and forwarded to committee members. To further assist in deliberations, committee members attended two workshops in White Pine County. In addition, nine members of the full committee volunteered to participate on a subcommittee that reviewed and discussed issues related to the financing of in-state water projects.

This report summarizes the activities and results of the IWPAC process. Section I is an overview of the committee process. Section II reviews committee discussion topics. Section III provides the committee's 22 recommendations in the areas of water conservation, resources development, resource management and funding. Appendices A through F provide a list of committee members, synopses of each meeting, fact sheets on each resource option, summaries of key resource scenarios, committee evaluation criteria, and individual member perspectives, respectively.

I. Advisory Committee

Purpose

The IWPAC was convened in August 2004 by the SNWA Board of Directors to develop recommendations on how best to integrate in-state resources into the planning and management activities of Southern Nevada. To consider the monetary aspects of in-state resource development activities, a financial subcommittee was formed to develop recommendations on how to finance resource options discussed by the full committee.

Members

The IWPAC consisted of twenty-nine (29) members, representing diverse stakeholder groups with an interest in the SNWA's water planning efforts. The SNWA Board selected 21 members to represent interests in Southern Nevada. Eight other representatives were appointed to represent Lincoln, White Pine and Nye counties; Virgin Valley and Moapa Valley water districts; the Colorado River Commission; the State Legislative Committee on Public Lands; and the Office of the Governor, respectively

The Financial Subcommittee included nine (9) IWPAC members, representing Southern Nevada interests. A list of IWPAC and financial subcommittee members is provided in Appendix A.

Process

To coordinate and manage committee and subcommittee meetings, the SNWA retained an independent, neutral facilitator from out-of-state (Lewis Michaelson, Katz & Associates, San Diego, California). Mr. Michaelson was responsible for soliciting dialogue and interaction among committee members, ensuring all perspectives had an opportunity to be heard and considered, and suggesting appropriate process tools to assist the committee members in problem-solving and other aspects of their deliberations.

“Consensus” served as the basis for formulation of the IWPAC's recommendations. Members did not vote on specific items, but worked together to identify positions that were generally acceptable to the committee as a whole. In instances where consensus was not possible (that is, where members had strong conflicting positions or perspectives on an issue), the minority views have been preserved in this final report.

To encourage public involvement and provide an opportunity for interested parties outside of the Las Vegas Valley to follow the committee's deliberations, IWPAC meetings were broadcast live to seven remote locations in Nevada, including Baker, Ely, Lund, Alamo, Logandale, Panaca and Pahrump. SNWA staff was assigned to each location and distributed copies of presentation materials, meeting summaries and other information being discussed by the committee. Those attending the remote broadcasts were encouraged to share their thoughts through the use of comment cards. Comments submitted by the public were provided to IWPAC members and included in the record of each meeting. SNWA staff provided written responses to each of the comments received.

An overview of each IWPAC and IWPAC Financial Subcommittee meeting is included in Appendix B. A complete summary for each meeting is available by contacting the SNWA.

II. Discussion Topics

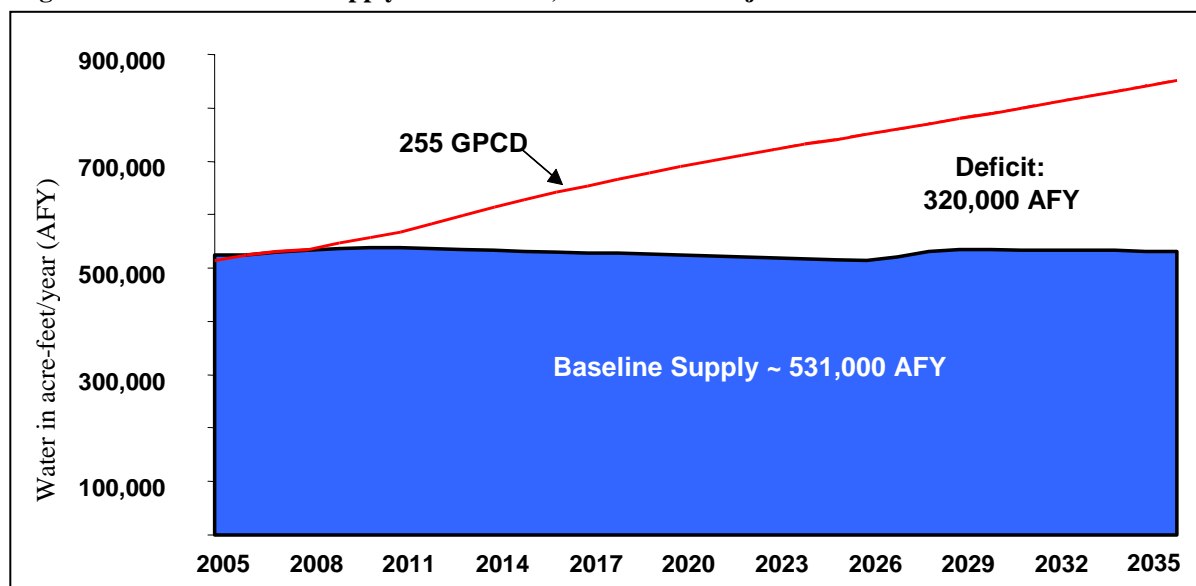
As part of its orientation, the IWPAC received briefings on current drought conditions, Southern Nevada’s drought response, SNWA facilities, current and future water resources, water demand forecasting, water conservation, Nevada water law, federal environmental laws and regulations (including the National Environmental Policy Act), SNWA in-state water resource projects, and wastewater issues.

During the educational portion of the IWPAC process and subsequent deliberations, the committee considered a number of key concepts and issues, including:

- The importance of ensuring adequate protection against current and future drought(s)
- The challenge of maintaining Southern Nevada’s drought response and conservation water savings while further maximizing the efficient use of existing water supplies
- The level of difficulty and approvals associated with each resource option
- The highly variable factors associated with predicting the timing and magnitude of future growth patterns
- The safeguards in place (and that should be in place) to protect the environment and communities located in areas from which in-state resources may be drawn

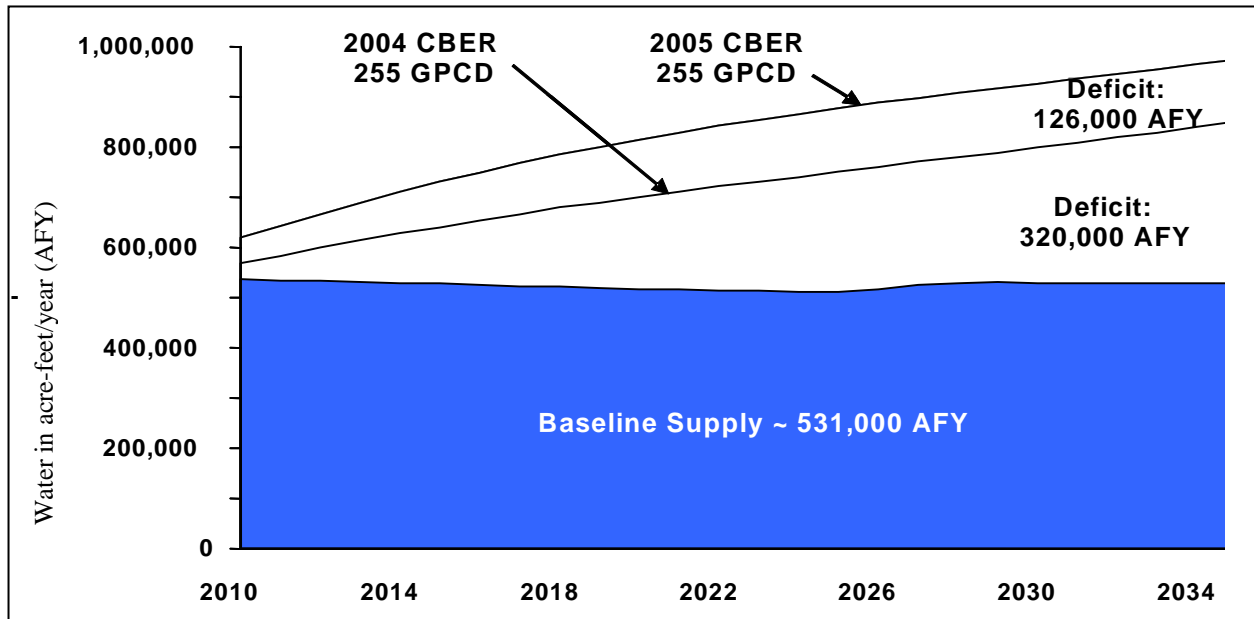
A critical step in the IWPAC process was to achieve consensus on a “problem statement” – that is, a baseline projection of future water demands and estimated supply deficits throughout the planning horizon (to 2035). As shown in Figure 1 below, SNWA staff suggested using projected water demands based on 2004 population projections from the Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) and reduced water use for anticipated conservation achievements (from 272 gallons per capita per day (GPCD) in 2004 to 255 GPCD in 2010).

Figure 1 – Baseline Water Supply and Demand, 2004 CBER Projection



The committee agreed with this initial approach, but reserved the right to review these assumptions as the process progressed. In August 2005, updated population projections from the CBER were available and reviewed by the committee. As shown in Figure 2, the 2005 projection suggested an increase of about 450,000 new residents during the planning horizon, which translated into an additional demand of approximately 126,000 acre-feet per year, assuming a conservation achievement of 255 GPCD by 2010. This increase results in a total projected deficit of 446,000 afy in 2035. This new information revealed that additional conservation – beyond 255 GPCD – would be required in order to meet near- and long-term demands.

Figure 2 – Baseline Water Supply and Demand, 2005 CBER Projection



The committee reviewed future resource options that could potentially be utilized to meet the projected deficit through 2035. SNWA staff provided information on each resource option, including the estimated water supply yield and cost, as well as timing and implementation issues. Resource options discussed by the committee are listed below. A more detailed summary for each is included in Appendix C.

- **Colorado River Resources**
 - Interim Surplus
 - Surplus
 - Arizona Water Bank
 - California Water Bank
 - Transfers and Exchanges, including Seawater Desalination
- **Las Vegas Hydrographic Basin Resources**
 - Southern Nevada Water Bank
 - Las Vegas Valley Shallow Aquifer
- **In-State Water Resources**
 - Surface Water:
 - Virgin/Muddy River Pre-Compact Water Rights
 - Virgin River Water Rights

- Lake Conveyance
 - Surface Diversion
 - Radial Well Diversion
- Groundwater:
 - Three Lakes and Tikaboo South Valleys Groundwater
 - Coyote Spring Valley Groundwater
 - Clark, Lincoln & White Pine Counties Groundwater
 - 5-Basin Approach (Coyote Spring, Delamar, Dry Lake, Cave, and Spring Valleys)
 - 6-Basin Approach (Coyote Spring, Delamar, Dry Lake, Cave, Spring and Snake Valleys)
- **Augmentation Credits and Reuse Resources**
 - Augmentation Credits
 - Wastewater Reuse
- **Additional Conservation**

The committee's evaluation of these resource options led to a general consensus regarding which resource options to analyze in planning scenarios. A majority of the committee members agreed that all planning scenarios should include existing supplies in addition to a combination of the following resources: Arizona Water Bank; Augmentation Credits; Virgin/Muddy River Pre-Compact Water Rights; Virgin River Water Rights (Surface Diversion); Three Lakes and Tikaboo South Valleys Groundwater; Coyote Spring Valley Groundwater; groundwater from Clark, Lincoln & White Pine Counties (5-Basin and 6-Basin Approaches); and additional conservation.

Interim Surplus, surplus, transfers and exchanges, including seawater desalination and water from the Las Vegas Valley shallow aquifer were excluded from planning scenarios because the amount and/or timing of the resource option's availability could not be determined or even estimated. However, these options remain part of the SNWA water resource portfolio.

Based on this direction, SNWA staff developed four planning scenarios (Appendix D). Review and discussion of these planning scenarios led to the development of the committee's final recommendations.

III. Recommendations

Initially, the committee was charged with identifying various alternative scenarios that would meet the projected deficit in 2035. After considerable discussion, however, the IWPAC acknowledged that many factors outside of SNWA's control or prediction could affect the exact timing and quantity of resources available in the future. With this in mind, members concluded that the SNWA should pursue planning for all in-state resource options unless and until it appears that more options are available than needed to meet the deficit. As more detailed information associated with water rights, environmental permitting and interstate discussions becomes available, the IWPAC believes that this approach will need to be revisited and resources prioritized accordingly. The committee developed a series of evaluation criteria (Appendix E) for consideration when prioritizing resources for future development.

Conservation

As a whole, the committee strongly supported additional conservation; opinions varied only on the extent to which conservation should be used as a substitute for the completion of in-state water resource projects. The Lincoln and White Pine County representatives maintained that Southern Nevada should pursue conservation to the level that in-state water projects are not required, or use water savings in conjunction with other non-groundwater supplies, such as ocean desalination. These members also maintained that growth should be slowed or stopped in Southern Nevada in order to permanently delay the Clark, Lincoln and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project.

The Colorado River Commission representative warned that acquiring additional Colorado River supplies (such as desalination or other types of transfers/exchanges) is increasingly dependent on Nevada's ability to demonstrate to the other Colorado River Basin states that Nevada has fully explored opportunities for development of its own in-state resources. Other members discouraged artificial growth controls, noting that the consequences of doing so would have serious ramifications for the economy of the state, including rural Nevada.

The following recommendations represent the committee's general conclusions in terms of water conservation in the Las Vegas Valley.

1: Pursue more aggressive promotion of water conservation and regulation of water use through methods such as the reduction of turf.

The committee agreed that aggressive water conservation should be a top priority for the Las Vegas Valley and recommended that additional conservation be pursued in conjunction with the development of in-state resources. Members specifically focused on the need to reduce turf in all customer classes, including residential, commercial, parks, government facilities, etc., since turf was the source of the greatest water waste in the Valley. Members felt strongly that government entities (such as public parks, schools and government facilities) need to actively support conservation and set a positive example for the public. The committee agreed that these activities should include refraining from installing new turf and eliminating existing unusable turf.

2: Decrease total water demand from 272 GPCD to 250 GPCD by 2010 and to 245 GPCD by 2035.

- a. Permanently implement major Drought Alert demand reduction tools identified in the SNWA Drought Plan, including landscape watering restrictions, landscape development codes, golf course water budgets and increased water waste fines and enforcement.
- b. Sustain current pricing signals by ensuring water rates keep pace with inflation.
- c. Maintain or exceed the 2004 participation levels in the SNWA Water Smart Landscapes Rebate Program.

Members agreed that opportunities for additional conservation exist in the Las Vegas Valley. A majority of the committee felt that even further reductions are possible and should be pursued in conjunction with development of in-state water resources.

3: Assess conservation achievement annually, investigate the potential for further GPCD reductions and revise conservation goals accordingly.

Members encouraged the SNWA to further analyze the community's future conservation potential. As part of this process, the committee agreed that the SNWA should:

- Revisit achievements and goals on a regular basis
- Make adjustments to conservation goals as needed
- Assess and implement the best methods for achieving additional conservation.

Resource Development

4. Pursue development of all the resource options considered in the IW PAC planning scenarios.

- Arizona Water Bank
- Coyote Spring Valley Groundwater Rights
- Three Lakes Valley Groundwater Rights
- Pre-Compact Water Rights (Virgin and Muddy Rivers)
- Virgin River Water Rights
- Clark, Lincoln and White Pine Counties Groundwater Applications
- Augmentation Credits
- Additional Conservation

Given that water rights permitting and environmental compliance processes are not yet complete for several of the resource options, members generally agreed that the SNWA should continue to pursue planning for development of all in-state resource options considered in the planning scenarios. Specific priorities for implementing the development of in-state resources should be determined when more definitive information is available. Recommendations for some of the other resource options discussed by the committee (such as surpluses and ocean desalination) are detailed in the latter portion of this section.

The representatives of White Pine County and Lincoln county disagreed with this recommendation, expressing opposition to the development of groundwater supplies in Lincoln and White Pine Counties. These individuals said that insufficient data were available to justify including these resources in SNWA planning activities and that other options – such as a reallocation of the Colorado River, ocean desalination or a “conservation only” approach – were more viable.

5. Provide additional safeguards for communities and the environment in areas where in-state groundwater resources are developed.

- a. Implement a committee with SNWA and White Pine County representatives to develop annual pumping strategies for Spring and/or Snake Valleys.
- b. Comprehensively monitor and manage any in-state groundwater pumping to assess hydrological effects, sustain the resource and protect the surrounding environment.
- c. Review groundwater situation in Spring and/or Snake Valleys in 75 years, including White Pine County supply needs, basin hydrology and overall pumping data, and revise SNWA permits if conditions warrant it.

The White Pine County representative also recommended that an independent contractor establish a baseline of all waters in target basins as SNWA proceeds with its water rights and environmental activities (a copy of the original recommendation is included in its entirety in Appendix F). The committee agreed that a baseline of water resources was important. Staff noted that a baseline effectively exists in historical data and will be expanded through ongoing processes such as NEPA and state water rights processes. The committee recommended that the SNWA consider options to ensure a baseline was developed either through existing processes or additional work, as appropriate. The committee agreed that these activities should not be a precondition of commencing the remainder of the work and that the results should be available to the public.

The committee acknowledged the extensive protections already provided under Nevada water law and the water-rights approval process of the Nevada State Engineer, which includes the consideration of whether the applicant has justified the need to import the water from another basin; a conservation plan has been adopted and is being effectively carried out; the proposed action is environmentally sound as it relates to the basin from which the water is exported; the proposed action is an appropriate long-term use that will not unduly limit the future growth and development in the basin from which the water is exported, as well as other factors the State Engineer determines to be relevant, including the possibility of aquifer tests to acquire additional information and mitigation or cessation of pumping if impacts occur. In addition, the State Engineer is working with Utah to address issues related to water resources in Snake Valley, a shared groundwater basin. The committee also acknowledged the important role of federal environmental processes in providing protections before any water is moved. Beyond these regulatory processes, the committee learned of various protections, including arrangements for water sharing that currently are in place through existing agreements between the SNWA and Moapa Valley Water District, and the SNWA and Lincoln County.

The committee agreed that – to the extent in-state groundwater resources are developed in the future – it was critical that appropriate safeguards exist to protect the environment and surrounding communities. Toward this end and in response to the concerns expressed by the White Pine County representative, the committee endorsed several additional steps referenced during the meeting discussions. These include the formation of a committee between SNWA and White Pine County to develop an annual pumping strategy, as well as a review of SNWA’s water use in 75 years. The committee agreed that any development of groundwater under the 5- or 6-Basin Approach should involve comprehensive monitoring and management, both to obtain more information about the nature of the water supplies in these areas, as well as to refine the operational strategies needed to ensure the sustainability of these resources over time, if or when they are developed. Members were also in support of continued communication and collaboration between Nevada and Utah concerning development activities in Snake Valley, a groundwater basin that is jointly located in the states of Nevada and Utah.

Members concurred that the intent of these safeguards, in addition to other state and federal protections noted above, is to ensure that water right holders and the environment are not adversely impacted.

6: Work with the Colorado River Basin States and the Bureau of Reclamation to implement augmentation credits for in-state, non-Colorado River resources.

The committee strongly supported efforts to implement augmentation credits for in-state resources, recognizing that augmentation credits for in-state, non-Colorado River resources would maximize the utilization of Nevada's in-state resources, significantly increase available supplies and reduce the degree to which new or additional resources would be required to meet future demands.

7: Pursue delivery of pre-compact Muddy and Virgin River water rights through Lake Mead and the existing Southern Nevada Water System ("lake conveyance").

The committee concluded that lake conveyance for pre-compact Muddy and Virgin River water rights is the most economical implementation approach for this resource, given that construction of additional facilities would not be required. However, members recognized that the implementation of lake conveyance would require discussions and approvals from the other Colorado River Basin states. Toward this end, members encouraged the SNWA to begin these discussions in order to further evaluate the feasibility of this option.

8: Pursue "lake conveyance" for the development and use of post-compact Virgin River water rights.

As with the preceding recommendation, the committee recognized that lake conveyance for existing post-compact Virgin River water rights is the most economical development option for this resource. However, members acknowledged that necessary approvals might be more difficult to obtain, given that the prevailing interpretation of the law of the river among the majority of the Colorado River Basin states prohibits lake conveyance of water rights granted following the execution of the 1922 Colorado River Compact.

Toward this end, the committee agreed that if lake conveyance of the SNWA's existing post-compact Virgin River water rights is not possible or unlikely to be available when this resource is needed, the SNWA should construct surface diversion and treatment facilities ("overland conveyance") to utilize this resource.

9: Pursue an interstate agreement with Utah and Arizona concerning use of the Virgin River.

The committee discussed the potential for, and the possible impacts of, upstream Virgin River development by the states of Utah and Arizona. The members agreed that the SNWA should pursue an agreement with these states to safeguard its existing Virgin River water rights and any future investments in capital facilities required to use those rights.

10: Pursue flexible use of Colorado River resources over the long term.

The committee acknowledged that Colorado River water is and will continue to be the primary water resource for the Las Vegas Valley. Toward this end, the committee agreed that Southern Nevada should pursue flexibility of Colorado River resources, both in terms of use and acquisition. The committee encouraged SNWA to continue to work with the other Colorado River Basin States to identify and implement opportunities that will benefit the region over the

long term. Members acknowledged that flexibility of Colorado River resources in the future is dependent on continued conservation gains and Nevada’s progress in developing its own in-state resources.

The committee also discussed the uncertainty of a permanent increase to Nevada’s annual 300,000 acre-foot Colorado River allocation. While members encouraged flexible use of Colorado River resources over the long-term, most recognized that protecting Southern Nevada against future droughts requires that other non-Colorado River resources be developed.

11: Utilize the Southern Nevada Water Bank and California Water Bank as “bridge resources” to help meet any supply deficits.

The committee agreed that the Southern Nevada and California water banks provide valuable resource supplies, but recognized that the nature of these resources is such that they cannot be depended upon as long-term permanent supplies. Furthermore, one member of the committee expressed concern that withdrawing the full amount of water that had been banked in the Las Vegas Valley could result in subsidence or other unintended impacts; in other words there were practical limitations to the use of these banked resources, even for bridging purposes. The committee concluded that, to the extent practical, these banked resources should be used as a bridge to offset any supply deficits until other more permanent resources are available, recognizing that State Engineer approval is required for annual withdrawals. The committee also supported continued banking of any unused Colorado River allocations to the maximum extent possible.

12: Utilize surplus and interim surplus Colorado River water, if and when they are available.

The committee agreed that surplus and interim surplus Colorado River water supplies should be used when they are available, but recognized that issues associated with timing and yield make this resource too uncertain to quantify or plan for in any given year. To the extent possible, the committee agreed that demands on other available supply sources should be reduced when surplus or interim surplus water is available.

13: Continue to pursue ocean desalination as a long-term resource.

The committee discussed the technical and economical feasibility of ocean desalination at length. A majority of the members recognized desalination as an important future resource, but ultimately agreed that it is not likely to be available in the near-term planning horizon, given projections of future water demand in Southern California and regulatory issues affecting the siting of large-scale desalination facilities in California. Other members maintained that because ocean desalination would occur for Southern Nevada in the form of a transfer of Colorado River water from California to Nevada, this option – to the degree that it replaces other resource options – increases the state’s dependency on Colorado River supplies.

The representatives of Lincoln and White Pine counties contended that more emphasis should be placed on ocean desalination, describing it as a potentially “unlimited” resource. While these individuals agreed with the committee’s recommendation to pursue ocean desalination, they maintained that this resource is more viable than other options being pursued – specifically groundwater resources in Lincoln and White Pine counties.

14: Pursue additional wastewater reuse to maximize supply availability if augmentation credits cannot be implemented.

The baseline demand projection adopted by the IWPAC includes additional direct reuse of up to a total of 44,000 AFY by 2035. This projection includes consideration of current reuse potential and future demands. The committee agreed that if augmentation credits cannot be implemented for some or all in-state water resources, the SNWA should identify and develop additional reuse opportunities – beyond those included in the baseline demand projection – in order to maximize the use of non-Colorado River supplies.

Given that reuse demands from large-turf irrigation facilities have declined considerably with increasing land costs and since the onset of the drought (for example, existing golf courses are using less water and few new courses are planned), an expansion of current reuse programs into the business and residential sectors of the community may be required.

Resource Management

15: Restrict or eliminate the use of salt-using water softeners at residential and commercial facilities to reduce total dissolved solids (“salts”) in wastewater discharge and to improve reuse and raw water quality.

The committee discussed reuse and raw water quality during the early stages of the IWPAC process. Members observed that salt-using water softeners contribute to higher levels of total dissolved solids (salts) in wastewater discharge, which may constrain direct reuse of wastewater and increase the amount of salts discharged to the Colorado River. As such, the committee recommended that salt-using water softeners be restricted or eliminated in order to improve the quality of reclaimed water for reuse or return to the Colorado River.

16: Utilize the Integrated Water Planning Advisory Committee’s evaluation criteria when assessing priorities for the development of in-state water resources.

Early in the committee process, members identified a set of criteria that they felt were important when considering in-state resource development options and activities. The criteria generally fell into eight major categories, including cost, general feasibility, potential for drought protection, potential for environmental protection, potential for economic benefits, potential for increases system reliability, scheduling and development flexibility, and water quality. Furthermore, during and after meetings with residents of Ely and Baker, Nevada, members strongly indicated that they did not want to see in-state resources developed in a way that adversely impacted existing rural lifestyles.

The committee agreed that the SNWA should utilize these criteria when considering the priority for and the development of in-state water resources in the future – that is, when more information on each of the resource options being pursued is available. A full list of the criteria is provided in Appendix E.

17: Utilize and maintain water supplies in a sustainable manner.

The committee agreed that sustainability was critical to the development of in-state resources. Toward this end, members agreed that any resource option ultimately developed should be utilized and maintained in a sustainable manner, both to ensure its viability as a long-term community resource, and to protect the environment and other water users in the development areas. Monitoring and management is one strategy discussed by the committee as a way to ensure resources are maintained in a sustainable manner over time.

Funding

18: Continue to support the use of diverse funding sources.

- Commodity Charges (water rates)
- Connection Charges
- Sales Tax
- Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) Funding
- Other state and federal funding as available

The committee concluded that the cost of new water infrastructure appears to be affordable under most scenarios using existing funding sources. Toward this end, the committee recommended that SNWA continue to support the use of these diverse funding sources, including connection and commodity charges, sales tax, revenues generated from the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) and other state and federal funding sources as available. The committee also recognized that commodity charges (water rates) would be the primary lever to encourage conservation, not connection charges.

19: Revisit the current funding formula for fairness and affordability when a specific project/funding scenario is determined.

The committee agreed that the current SNWA funding formula appeared reasonable for now, but recommended that this formula be revisited when more detailed project cost information is available.

20: Pursue an extension of the ¼ cent sales tax to help pay for future water infrastructure.

The current ¼ cent sales tax is capped at \$2.3 billion or 2025, whichever comes first, and is fully committed to paying for the regional improvements implemented by SNWA over the past ten years. Staff estimated that, at current collection rates, the cap will be reached by 2021. The committee agreed that an extension of the ¼ cent sales tax would create a more diverse, stable funding plan as well as provide substantial funding for future water resource projects. Toward this end, the committee agreed that, when the timing is appropriate, the SNWA should pursue an extension of the ¼ cent sales tax to help fund future/additional water infrastructure.

21: Support the continued allocation of 10% of the funds received from the SNPLMA to the SNWA.

The SNWA currently receives 10 percent of revenues generated from the sale of federal land in the Las Vegas Valley under the SNPLMA. Revenues can be used for regional water facilities and

programs that generate additional water resources, such as conservation. The committee recommended the SNWA support continued receipt of its 10 percent SNPLMA allocation, recognizing that this revenue source is contingent on the sale of available land in the Las Vegas Valley.

22: Increase conservation education, including the financial ramifications that could occur if additional conservation is not achieved.

The committee strongly supported conservation education and recommended increased outreach within the Las Vegas Valley. As part of these activities, members felt that the public should be informed of the financial ramifications – that is, the costs to develop other resources – that could occur if additional conservation is not achieved.

During the IWPAC process and development of recommendations, several committee members shared written materials that expressed their personal views on specific issues (Appendix F). To the extent possible, these views have been captured in the narrative of this report.