
From: Banonis, Michelle <mabanonis@usbr.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 22, 2014 10:47 AM
To: Ryan Wulff
Cc: Belin, Letty; Will Stelle - NOAA Federal; dmurillo@usbr.gov; Jason PHILLIPS; Allen, Kaylee; Lohofener, Ren; Larry Rabin; Michael Chotkowski; Castleberry, Dan; John Bezdek; Cathy Marcinkevage - NOAA Federal; Romanik, Peg; Hunt, Shane D; Dan Hytrek - NOAA Federal; Jennifer Gimbel; jnagode@usbr.gov; Jeffrey Rieker; Maria Rea - NOAA Federal; Knecht, Mary; Shelby Mendez - NOAA Federal; Lori Rinek
Subject: Re: Proceeding with NOI

Hi Letty,

To add to Ryan's e-mail, I'd also provide that DWR has been giving the federal lead agencies notice about the CM1 changes since earlier this year. I believe this was also discussed at a Principals meeting in or around the April time frame if my memory doesn't fail me. In a couple of Principals meeting phone calls, the state also discussed that CM1 changes were being made at the same time they discussed the revisions that would be needed for the CEQA/NEPA document and the Draft BDCP. We also made a reference to "project revisions" in the NOI, which is mainly in reference to the CM1 changes.

I hope this helps to provide a little context.

Thanks,
Michelle

On Mon, Dec 22, 2014 at 10:43 AM, Ryan Wulff <ryan.wulff@noaa.gov> wrote:
Letty,

Senior staff was aware of the CM1 changes as they were discussed at the BECT meeting in early December. However we were only given 24 hours before this announcement that they were releasing this info. We did not have any major red flags with the content, but did have concerns about no NOI out with more info on the supplement going public.

I think it would be ok to postpone until free the holidays if you want to coordinate a rollout. Say targeting the first full week of January?

-Ryan

On Dec 22, 2014, at 9:03 AM, Belin, Letty <letty_belin@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Thanks for the email, Will.

Did anyone on our team know of the changes to the project itself, i.e., moving the pumps away from the diversion location, prior to reading the Sac Bee article? I certainly didn't. And did anyone on our team coordinate with the state on its new announcement? I find it odd that the

state implies that we feds joined them in making these changes and in making the announcement when I and I assume most of our team, was completely unaware of the revisions.

That said, I'm in favor of staying joined at the hip with the state. The question in my mind is not whether to release the NOI but what sort of federal announcement to make in doing so. I think it would be pretty strange for us to release the NOI without making any sort of announcement. What are others' thoughts on this topic? And has anyone spoken with DOI/NOAA communications folks on this topic? Is there anything we feds would want to emphasize that was not stated or underscored in the state's announcement?

Letty

On Sat, Dec 20, 2014 at 10:11 AM, Will Stelle - NOAA Federal <will.stelle@noaa.gov> wrote:
Ryan: Thanks for the suggestion. Given that the NOI has been entirely cleared, and that the delay was merely at the request of the state -- now no longer operative -- I would ask that you notify the NOAA folks to please proceed to send the cleared notice to the FR so that the Federal NEPA process can keep pace with the public discussions now obviously occurring. Unless you hear otherwise from DOI, please push the send button on Monday.

Many thanks,

WS

On Fri, Dec 19, 2014 at 11:05 AM, Ryan Wulff - NOAA Federal <ryan.wulff@noaa.gov> wrote:
Colleagues:

For those that may have seen the Sac Bee article last night/today on the changes to CM1 that will be in the supplement, we found out late yesterday that the State planned to counter that article by releasing a bunch of information today regarding general topics that will be in the supplement and more specifics about the realignment of CM1 based on public comments. Links to both are below.

Larry, Michelle and I have discussed the issue with agency staff and while we do not have concerns with the specifics of the announcement (as we agree on the basic information), we do think that it would be best to release the NOI as soon as possible. We now have two State announcements about a supplement and we thought it would be better to have a federal announcement out there as well.

The NOI is surnamed, signed and ready to go. If there is no objection from you all, we could send it to the Federal Register on Monday. DWR has consulted with Karla and the State is ok with us releasing the version we have already cleared. Is this ok with folks here?

Regards,
Ryan

State announcement today: <http://baydeltaconservationplan.com/News/News.aspx>
Sac Bee article last night: <http://www.sacbee.com/news/local/environment/article4644687.html>

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