



Texas Water Development Board
An Assessment of Aquifer Storage
and Recovery in Texas
(Contract No. 0904830940)



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PROJECT STATUS REPORT NO. 1
July 24 through August 31, 2009

INTRODUCTION

This Project Status Report provides a summary of the work activities completed by Malcolm Pirnie and its subconsultants during the reporting period and anticipated work for the coming months.

ACTIVITIES THROUGH END OF REPORTING PERIOD

WORK ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED

- Task 1: Completed. The team prepared agenda for, and conducted August 27, 2009 kickoff meeting with TWDB staff and representatives of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR). We then prepared minutes documenting key discussion and action items from the meeting.
- Task 2: No work on the legal research was conducted during the period, pending results from the site visits.
- Task 3: We prepared an interview outline and data requirements for site visits with ASR utilities, and conducted interviews and site visits with the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) and the City of Kerrville. The site visits were conducted by Fred Blumberg (Malcolm Pirnie) and David Pyne, P.E. (ASR Systems). The utility staff members included both managerial and operations personnel. Following those meetings we prepared draft memoranda documenting the site visits. Photographs from those site visits were provided to TWDB.
- Task 4: No work on Task 4 was conducted during the period.
- Task 5: No work on Task 5 was conducted during the period.
- Task 6: An ASR workshop was discussed during the kickoff meeting. The USBOR is very interested in participating in that workshop, and offered to co-sponsor the event. It was decided that the workshop would be most effective if it were conducted in conjunction with the Texas Water Conservation Association (TWCA) fall conference in San Antonio, TX in October 2010.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND PROPOSED CORRECTIVE ACTION

- SAWS and Kerrville did not have as much data and information as expected, especially related to O&M expenses for ASR facilities. The O&M expenses related to ASR are commingled with other water system expenses. SAWS is having a local university study its ASR expenses, and those findings may be available before the Final Report to the TWDB. Some assumptions about O&M expenses can be made and reported based on the Pirnie team's experience in other areas of the country.

- The three participating ASR utilities have been reluctant to submit their in-kind participation reports. We are working with them to see that those reports are submitted in a more timely manner.
- The site of the TWCA conference in San Antonio is the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Preliminary contacts with the hotel have been only marginally productive. The event planners at the hotel want the sponsors to guarantee a large number of rooms for the ASR Workshop. We will be having additional discussions with the hotel staff in order to try to resolve the planning issues.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Prepare outline for, and begin work on the legal memorandum.
- Conduct interview and site visit with El Paso Water Utilities, and prepare documenting memoranda.
- Complete the review and preparation of memoranda from the SAWS and Kerrville site visits.
- Continue to gather data from the participating utilities.
- Prepare a screening e-survey to solicit information from Texas water utilities that have considered, but not implemented ASR, and develop list of utilities to be surveyed. Following that screening survey, more in-depth interviews will be conducted.
- Meet with TWDB accounting staff to identify invoicing procedures.
- Continue planning for the ASR Workshop in conjunction with the October 2010 TWCA conference in San Antonio, TX.
- Make a presentation on ASR and the TWDB research project to the Bell County Water Seminar in Belton, TX on November 12, 2009.