

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
REPORT OF CONVERSATION Page 1 of 1



**Siting, Transmission and
 Environmental Protection
 Division**

FILE: 09-AFC-1

**PROJECT TITLE: Watson Cogeneration Steam
 and Electric Reliability Project**

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location: | | |
| NAME: Mark Lindley (PWA) | DATE: 7/1/11 | TIME: 3:00 PM | |
| WITH: Jason Weekes – Water Replenishment District of Southern California | | | |
| SUBJECT: BP Watson – Sea Water Intrusion related to Groundwater Pumping | | | |

Mark Lindley contacted Jason Weekes of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) regarding sea water intrusion impacts associated with groundwater pumping for use for the Watson Cogeneration Steam and Electric Reliability Project (BP Watson).

The WRD operates the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project to inject water into the West Coast Basin aquifer to build a line of pressure to block sea water intrusion. BP Watson would utilize groundwater pumped at the BP Carson Refinery about one mile from the injection wells operated for the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project. The WRD pumps over 10,000 acre-feet per year of freshwater into the West Coast Basin aquifer at the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project to address sea water intrusion impacts. Mr. Lindley expressed concern that given the proximity of BP Carson Refinery's pumping wells to the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project, that the groundwater pumped at BP Carson Refinery was likely to be primarily freshwater that was pumped into the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project.

Jason Weekes indicated that the WRD has developed groundwater models for the Dominguez Gap Barrier project. The WRD estimates that the ratio of replenishment water to groundwater pumped by BP was about 70% based on the groundwater modeling that the WRD has done. WRD has had some discussions with BP about this issue, but thus far BP has been reluctant to convert their groundwater pumping to recycled water use. By comparison, the neighboring Chevron refinery utilizes 100% recycled water.

Jason Weekes confirmed that the WRD charges all users in the West Coast Basin and the Central Basin a \$244/acre-foot fee to cover replenishment. The fee is a uniform assessment spread across all users within the two groundwater basins. Jason Weekes indicated that current groundwater pumping rates, particularly in close proximity to the Pacific Ocean (i.e. at the BP Carson Refinery) is unsustainable and only possible due to the operation of the Dominguez Gap Barrier Project and West Coast Barrier Project. Ideally, the WRD would like to see BP and all other industrial users in the Carson area convert groundwater use to recycled water use to help limit sea water intrusion impacts and to preserve the groundwater resource for potable uses.

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|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| cc: Jason Weekes – WRD | Signed: |
| | Name: Mark Lindley – Soil & Water Resources |

DOCKET
 09-AFC-1
 DATE JUL 01 2011
 RECD AUG 23 2011