

Texas Water Development Board

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



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PROJECT STATUS REPORT NO. 2

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.
- Task 2: Attorney Ed McCarthy began work on the legal research, pending further information from the site visits to be done under Task 3.
- Task 3: We prepared an interview outline and data requirements for site visits with ASR utilities, and conducted interviews and site visits with the El Paso Water Utilities. The site visit was conducted by Fred Blumberg (Malcolm Pirnie) and Tom Morris (ASR Systems). EPWU staff provided an excellent presentation on the history of the ASR project at El Paso, followed by site visits to the Fred Hervey Water Reclamation Plant, and one ASR well and one infiltration basin. The utility staff members included both managerial and operations personnel. Following those meetings we prepared a draft memorandum documenting the site visit. Photographs from the site visit were provided to TWDB.
- Task 4: Work on this task commenced with the Pirnie team evaluating methods to obtain information from other utilities in TX regarding ASR studies and potential. It was decided to conduct the survey in two phases—an initial screening survey using an internet-based system, followed by more detailed telephone calls or personal visits where appropriate. The electronic survey form was developed by the Pirnie team for review and approval of the TWDB.
- Task 5: No work on Task 5 was conducted during the period.
- Task 6: An ASR workshop was discussed during the kickoff meeting. 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. Pirnie staff continued to work with the Crowne Plaza Hotel to schedule the workshop. In addition, Fred Blumberg presented a summary of the ASR research project at the Bell County Water Seminar in Belton, TX on November 12, 2009.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND PROPOSED CORRECTIVE ACTION

- As with SAWS and Kerrville, EPWU did not have as much data and information as expected, especially related to capital costs and O&M expenses for ASR facilities. The O&M expenses related to ASR are co-mingled with other water system expenses. We are planning to meet again with SAWS and to talk with Kerrville to try to obtain more information.
- We continued working with SAWS and Kerrville to see that their inkind reports are submitted in a timely manner. Reports were finally submitted.
- As reported previously, the event planners at the Crowne Plaza hotel wanted the sponsors to guarantee a large number of rooms for the ASR Workshop. We continued discussions with the TWCA staff to determine if they could get us a better offer from the Crowne Plaza.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Complete the review and preparation of a memorandum from the El Paso site visit.
- Continue to gather data from the participating utilities.
- Continue to work on technical memo from site visits.
- Continue to work on legal memorandum.
- Initiate the e-survey to solicit information from Texas water utilities that have considered, but not implemented ASR.
- Continue planning for the ASR Workshop in conjunction with the October 2010 TWCA conference in San Antonio, TX.
- Continue to look for opportunities to make presentations on the ASR research project.