

**USBR/Western Customer Funding Program  
Technical Committee Meeting  
November 14, 2000  
8:30 a.m. at LLNL**

Draft Notes

**1. Call to order by Chairman/Secretary: Bill Reichmann/Barry Mortimeyer**

**2. Roll Call (Normal attendees; x marks attendees):**

(X) Charles Cooper, Western (M)	(X) Ed Roman, SMUD (M)	( ) Joe Ungvari, DOE (A)
(X) Cyndi Calvillo, Western (L)	(X) Barry Mortimeyer, USBR (M)	(X) Mark Clark, DOE (M)
(X) Russ Klein, BART (M)	( ) Janice Bartlett, USBR (L)	( ) Dan Netto, USBR (A)
(X) Stuart Robertson, Irrigation (M)	(P) Matt Foskett, NCPA (M)	(X) Bill Reichmann, SVP (M)
(P) Tom Kabat, Palo Alto (M) via phone	(P) Lowell Watros, Redding (M)	(X) Tom Ruthford, USBR (A)
(X) Martin Bauer, USBR (P)		

**3. Review Prior Minutes** - Minutes were approved with minor revisions.

**4. Reports:**

- A. **Governance Board** – One item was assigned to the TC at the 9/21/00 GB meeting and that was related to the existing Action Item 01/11/2000-2 Water/Power Optimization. The GB suggested that the requirement as set forth in the proposed Scope of Work entitled *Investigate the Feasibility of Consolidating Control Center Operations of Reclamation and Western* be changed in focus. The new focus should be to determine if process/procedure changes in water/power operations could be made that could result in an optimization of CVP water/power operations. The TC was asked to develop a new strategy to pursue this focus.
- B. **Finance Committee** – Tom Ruthford and Cyndi Calvillo reported on the last FC meeting (10/20/00). Russ Klein reported that Jay Evans would be leaving BART within the next 2 weeks to join Alameda County. The drafting of the “fair share” letter to go to customers was discussed.
- C. **Other-Report on Customer O&M Funding Obligations** -- Tom also handed out a very thorough and specific handout of FY2004 preliminary funding plan, work plans summary, direct power work plans, schedule of direct power costs, schedule of multipurpose expenses, explanation of variances in the multipurpose expenses, ranking criteria, and Reclamation O&M expenses estimates for the FY2001 formal rates process dated 3/28/00. TC members expressed their appreciation for receiving this data in an understandable format that allowed easy cross-checking of numbers.
- D. **FY00 Project Status**
- **Keswick Trash Rake** - No change in status of this project. The design of the rake has been delayed as efforts of Shasta staff shifted to completing the Carr Tunnel Cleaning project.
  - **Clear Creek Tunnel Cleaning** – This project is in progress and is scheduled to be completed by 11/23/00. The initial strategy to perform the work by contracting out the scrubbing process was changed after not only receiving a high bid from the intended small business contractor but also when the timeframe to perform the work became too short for a contractor to perform the work. The effort was then undertaken by Shasta crews. Efforts to-date are exceptional, as several cleaning passes have now been made in the tunnel. It was requested that a summary report be prepared upon conclusion of the scrubbing project.
- E. **FY01 Project Status**

- **NM Butterfly Valve Repair** – A trip to New Melones to inspect the condition of the cracked tie rods also presented an opportunity for Ed Roman and Barry Mortimeyer to see the condition of the butterfly valves that are being funded by the Customer this year. Ed questioned whether the repair of these valves should be a high priority as perhaps other equipment within the New Melones powerplant may have higher priorities? New Melones staff indicated that the valves had been in the present condition for as long as they could remember. Changes to unit startup/shutdown operations procedures have reduced the need to operate the butterfly valve as often as once was required but the shaft scoring and leaking condition still exists. Barry indicated that if we (the TC) keep second-guessing the projects we previously recommend and the GB approves, our goal to improve system reliability may not be achieved on schedule. The issue of re-evaluating the BF valve refurbishment was left with Barry being tasked to check with Folsom to determine impacts to system reliability and safety of dams impacts (as this is a multipurpose tunnel) that could exist by reducing the priority of the BF valve refurbishment project.
- **Spring Creek Transformer Refurbishment** – This project is being split into 2 parts in order to reduce the risk of continued operation of the transformer with the oil sludging that has been experienced. Whether than waiting for the contractor who will be performing the regasketing and seeping weld repairs to also process the oil, the oil will be processed and reconditioned as soon as possible by another contractor. This second contractor can do the reconditioning while the transformer is energized therefore eliminating the need for a plant outage.

## 5. Accept New Action Items

- A. 11/14/2000-1 Preliminary Customer 2004 Funding Plan.** The TC spent considerable time reviewing the FY2004 funding estimates. It was expressed that the \$30 million program proposed was giving “sticker shock” to some of the participants and some of the TC members began questioning the customer funding program concept. There were attempts to find plan elements where funding cuts could be made but these efforts were abandoned. One issue to be resolve is what do the customers want to fund off the RAX list? This will be addressed at the RAX workshop as well at the next TC meeting. The list needs to be done by the next Finance Committee meeting in January 2001. The entire FY2004 funding program is to go to the GB for approval in February so that funding arrangements/certificates can be executed in March 2001.
- B. 11/14/2000-2 New Melones Butterfly Valve Repair Vs Other Projects.** See report above.

## 6. Prioritize Action Items

## 7. Address Open Action Items:

- 11/02/1999-1** FY01 RAX. The scheduled 11/16/00 workshop was postponed until a new date could be determined. Barry indicated he wanted to have all Reclamation’s “power” RAX items listed and have the Shasta and Folsom RAX managers available to discuss priorities with the group. A new target date (yet to be confirmed) is the afternoon of December 12 that would allow TC members to stay the night in Sacramento to attend the December 13 TC meeting. (Open)
- 01/04/2000-1** a) Cumulative RAX Summary Spreadsheet – Ed. (Deferred)
- 01/11/2000-2** Study to Optimize Water/Power Optimization (also 08/23/2000-1). A new “requirements” summary paper will be developed and circulated between TC members in advance of the 12/4/00 GB meeting. (Open)

- 01/11/2000-6**    Develop criteria for prioritizing funding which considers risk of spilled water – Tom/Martin. Martin Bauer presented criteria for this as a part of the 4.C. above. (Closed)
- 03/01/2000-3**    Rapid Return to Service for Excess Capacity – Tom/Martin. (deferred)
- 03/01/2000-5**    Rank Plants using the Criteria developed from Action item 01/11/2000-6 using the 10 and 90 percentile forecast – Martin. This ranking will be performed in time to assist with the RAX workshop. (Closed)
- 5/15/2000-1**    Status of web site for TC documents – USBR. This website is currently being developed and should be operational right after the December GB meeting. (Open)
- 5/15/2000-3**    Economic considerations of Spring Creek transformer replacement. Tom/Martin (Closed since refurbishment funded)
- 5/15/2000-4**    Special Workshop for RAX Program Development and CIP funding - Barry. Merged with 11/02/1999-1 (Closed)
- 5/15/2000-5**    Outage and Budget Planning – Bill. Merged with 5/15/2000-5 (Closed)
- 08/23/00-4**    Letter to Customers. The letter drafted by Stuart Robertson will be submitted to Lowell Watros and Western for review prior to being sent to GB for execution. (Closed)
- 08/23/00-5**    Schedule of Rewinds, Breakers, Transformer Replacements. This list will be provided at the RAX Workshop (Closed)

**8. Future Meetings:**

Governance Board	December 4, 2000	9:00 a.m.	Western
RAX Workshop	December 12, 2000	1:00 a.m.	USBR-CVO
Technical Committee	December 13, 2000	9:00 a.m.	USBR-CVO
Finance Committee	January 12, 2001	10:00 a.m.	Western
Governance Board	February 15, 2001	9:00 a.m.	Western

**9. Adjourn**