Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group  
Agenda Item Information  
May 22, 2007

Agenda Item
Long-term Experimental Plan EIS

Action Requested
☐ Information item only; we will answer questions but no action is requested.
☐ Feedback requested from AMWG members.

Presenter(s)
Randall Peterson, Environmental Resources Division Manager, Reclamation

Previous Action Taken
☒ Other:
Reclamation published an advance Notice of Intent in the Federal Register in November 2006 announcing Reclamation’s intent to prepare and consider an EIS on an LTEP for the future operation of Glen Canyon Dam. A second Notice of Intent was published in the Federal Register in December 2006 describing the proposed federal action and possible alternatives, and announcing public scoping meetings. Reclamation conducted public scoping meetings on January 4 and 5, 2007, in Phoenix and Salt Lake City, respectively. During the public scoping period, which ended February 28, 2007, Reclamation received 160 comment letters and e-mails with 651 distinct comments categorized for analysis in the Scoping Report. The Scoping Report was published on March 30, 2007. Sixteen entities (including federal agencies, state and quasi-state organizations, and tribal governments) are participating as cooperating agencies in this EIS process. Government-to-Government consultations are taking place with interested tribes.

Reclamation is developing a range of alternatives to encompass the issues identified in the Scoping Report and intends to publicize them in May 2007. The range of alternatives will be developed following recommendations provided by the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group and through information received during public scoping.

The LTEP will likely consider dam operations, potential modifications to Glen Canyon Dam intake structures, and other potential management actions such as removal of non-native fish species in the Colorado River below Glen Canyon Dam. The LTEP will build on a decade of scientific experimentation and monitoring that has taken place as part of the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program (AMP), and will build on the knowledge gained by experiments, operations, and management actions taken under the AMP. The NEPA process for this EIS will evaluate the implications and impacts of each of the alternatives on downstream resources as well as the purposes and benefits of Glen Canyon Dam. A draft EIS will be completed in February 2008, the final EIS will be completed in October 2008, and a Record of Decision will be issued in December 2008.