CVWD Drinking Water Consolidation Projects

An overview of current activities & challenges

COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

www.cvwd.org
About CVWD

CVWD was formed in 1918 to protect and conserve local water sources. Since then, the District has grown into a multifaceted agency that serves the community in the following ways:

• Irrigation and domestic water
• Wastewater (sewage) collection
• Wastewater recycling for golf course irrigation
• Regional storm water protection
• Groundwater replenishment
• Water Conservation
Service Area

• 1,000 square miles
• From Desert Hot Springs to Salton Sea communities
• Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties
Domestic Water Service

• Delivers water to approximately 110,000 homes and businesses
  ▪ Approximately 290,000 people

• 94 wells, 61 reservoirs, 2,000 miles of pipeline

• Daily demand for drinking water averages 72.2 million gallons
Sources of Supply

• Groundwater
• Recycled Water
• Imported Water from:
  ▪ The Colorado River
  ▪ Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
  ▪ The Glorious Lands Company
  ▪ The State Water Project
Disadvantaged Communities Infrastructure Task Force

A collaborative work group comprised of community stakeholders, CVWD Board members & staff, tribe, school district, Desert Recreation District, Riverside County staff, and legislative representatives that was formed to:

• Plan, coordinate and identify opportunities to work together on water and sewer infrastructure projects

• Identify opportunities for DAC involvement funding

• Report on project progress

• Discuss policy and/or project barriers
Current Grant Consolidation Activities

• East Coachella Valley Water Supply Project
• Thermal Mutual Water Company
• Westside Elementary School
• Galindo Mobile Home Park (8 separate systems)
• St. Anthony’s Mobile Home Water System
East Coachella Valley Water Supply Project

• Received $500k planning grant from the California State Water Resources Control Board
• Identify, analyze, and prioritize small water systems in disadvantaged communities located in the East Coachella Valley with a high potential for consolidation with CVWD
• Project includes reviewing over 80 small water systems generally consisting of mobile home parks
• Many systems have elevated levels of arsenic, nitrates, fluoride
East Coachella Valley Water Supply Project
East Coachella Valley Water Supply Project
Barriers to Consolidation

• Compliance orders issued by the California Department of Public Health or Riverside County Dept. of Environmental Health affect prioritization
• Difficult to connect systems due to distance from existing infrastructure
• Minimal information about existing water systems
• Need to identify opportunities and secure external funding sources
• Requires significant investment of staff and consultant time
Thermal Mutual Water Company Consolidation

• Private water system consisting of 38 residential properties
• Existing 50-year old well system is failing with water outages up to 12 hours
• Existing pipeline and service connections in backyards. New service connections must go through homeowner property to backyard
• Need to obtain permission for entry from all property owners for service tie-in connections
• TMWC was combined with another consolidation project to secure sufficient funding based on maximum allowable grant cost of $30k/service connection
Thermal Mutual Water Company Consolidation
Westside Elementary School Consolidation

- Westside Elementary School serves approximately 500 disadvantaged K-6 students in the community of Thermal in Riverside County.
- Onsite well has no redundancy or back-up power.
- Grant application originally included onsite work. However, Westside replaced onsite water system prior to grant funding as part of emergency sewer replacement project.
- New offsite water main will provide fire protection.
- Grant application has been modified to include only offsite work ($900k).
Westside Elementary School Consolidation
Galindo Mobile Home Park Park Consolidation

- Consolidation of 8 separate water systems that includes approximately 100 mobile homes
- Some of the systems were out of compliance due to Cr6 when application was started. However, MCL was rescinded in September 2017.
- Gathering information to include in grant application has been difficult to obtain
- Park owners desire separate water meters for each mobile home instead of master meters. However, limited utility corridor available due to septic systems and other onsite private utilities & space
Galindo Mobile Home Park Consolidation
St. Anthony’s Mobile Home Park Park Consolidation

• Proposed consolidation of approximately 100 mobile homes in the East Coachella Valley

• CVWD is working with the water system owner and State Water Resources Control Board to determine if onsite treatment or consolidation is the best option

• Significant infrastructure is needed to connect, but the new pipeline could also benefit existing CVWD customers in Mecca and spur future consolidations
Challenges to Consolidation Lessons Learned

• Support from our Board, elected officials, and stakeholders is key to success!

• Plan Ahead! Consolidation project takes about 1 year or more for the application process

• Understand the available funding, environmental approvals, and application process required from the funding agency

• Conduct outreach with the water system early to establish a relationship and to set expectations

• Communicate regularly with your agency grant project manager

• Construction should never begin before grant approval from the funding agency
Thank you!