MEMORANDUM

TO: Plateau Water Planning Group
FROM: John Ashworth, WSP
SUBJECT: Prioritization of 2021 Plan Strategies Assumptions
DATE: October 22, 2020

The following assumptions have been made by the Plateau Water Planning Group to clarify their rating analysis of the 2021 Plateau Region Water Plan strategies.

Uniform Standard 1A – What is the decade the RWP shows the project comes on line?

- The first decade the supply is available is the online decade.

Uniform Standard 1B – In what decade is initial funding needed?

- The Infrastructure Finance Report (Chapter 9 of 2021 Plan) is used to identify timing of needed financing.
- For WUGs that did not respond to the IFR survey, it is assumed that funding will be needed in the decade prior to the online decade of the project.
- For projects with a scheduled online decade of 2020, the same 2020 decade is assumed for start of financing.

Uniform Standard 2A – What supporting data is available to show that the quantity of water needed is available?

- This criterion is evaluated based on the current level of knowledge of October 2020.
• Conservation strategies have little specific relevant studies, but are based on sound statewide assumptions. Therefore, all conservation strategies, including water loss audit and main line repair, are ranked as “5”.
• Groundwater source strategies whose volumes do not exceed designated MAG volumes are sufficient quantities based on models and are ranked as “3”.

Uniform Standard 2B – If necessary, does the sponsor hold necessary legal rights, water rights and/or contracts to use water that this project would require?

• This criterion is evaluated based on the current level of knowledge as of October 2020.
• Conservation strategies have little specific relevant studies, but are based on sound statewide assumptions. Therefore, all conservation strategies were ranked as “5”.
• Groundwater projects consider whether the sponsor has legal surface right to the project location and permit right (if needed from local GCD) to withdraw groundwater from the underlying aquifer.

Uniform Standard 2C – What level of engineering and/or planning has been accomplished for this project?

• This criterion is evaluated based on the current level of knowledge of October 2020.
• Conservation strategies have little specific relevant studies, but are based on sound statewide assumptions. Therefore, all conservation strategies were ranked as “10”.

Uniform Standard 2D – Has the project sponsor requested (in writing for the 2021 Plan) that the project be included in the Regional Water Plan?

• It is recognized that a “request letter” was neither a requirement nor a specified task in the consideration of strategies in the 2021 Plan. However, for the intent of this Uniform Standard, it is assumed that a project is awarded a “5” if there is specific support by the sponsor or a representative if the WUG at planning group meetings when the strategies were discussed.

Uniform Standard 3A – In the decade the project comes on line, what is the % of the WUG’s (or WUGs’) needs satisfied by the project?
• Percent need satisfied is calculated by dividing the project supply in the first decade of need by the supply deficit in the first decade of need, with a maximum of 100%.
• Strategies for WUGs that do not have a projected water supply need receive a ranking of “0”.
• Percent need satisfied by wholesale water provider strategies is calculated by dividing the project supply in the first decade of need by the total supply deficit in the first decade of need of all WUGs receiving water from the project.

Uniform Standard 3B – In the final decade of the planning period, what is the % of the WUG’s (or WUGs’) needs satisfied by the project?

• Percent need satisfied is calculated by dividing the project supply in the last (2070) decade of need by the supply deficit in the last (2070) decade of need.
• Strategies for WUGs that do not have a projected water supply need receive a ranking of “0”.
• Percent need satisfied by wholesale water provider strategies is calculated by dividing the project supply in the first decade of need by the total supply deficit in the final decade of need of all WUGs receiving water from the project.

Uniform Standard 3C – Is this project the only economically feasible source of new supply for the WUG, other than conservation?

• Self-explanatory.

Uniform Standard 3D – Does this project serve multiple WUGs?

• Only City of Del Rio (Wholesale Water Provider) strategies serve multiple WUGs.

Uniform Standard 4A – Over what period of time is the project expected to provide water (regardless of the planning period)?

• All strategies have a project life of greater than 20 years.
Uniform Standard 4B – Does the volume of water supplied by the project change over the regional water planning period?

- There is no decrease in supply for any of the strategies, thus all strategies have no change over time or have an increase over time.

Uniform Standard 5A – What is the expected unit cost of water supplied by this project compared to the median unit cost of all other recommended strategies in the region’s current RWP?

- Unit cost ($/acre-foot/year) for each strategy is shown in Table 5-3 of the 2021 Plateau Water Plan.
- Median unit cost is calculated from the highest and lowest unit cost in the first decade that debt is retired for each strategy and is equal to $5,179 per acre foot per year.