

Upper Rio Grande Basin Water Operations Review Executive Committee meeting, March 9, 2001

Corps of Engineers Building, 8:15 – 10:30 a.m.

In attendance:

LTC Raymond Midkiff, Corps

Rhea Graham, NMISC

Norman Gaume, NMISC

Gail Stockton, Corps

Steve Hanson, BOR

Leann Towne, BOR

Dale Gronewold, Corps

- The Executive Committee reviewed the final draft notes from the previous June, August, and September meetings and approved them with the following corrections: 1) the notes be one consistent format, 2) drop the agency header on the August notes, and 3) clarify that the August meeting discussion regarding decision support system should state decision analysis system since we are seeking an organized way to analyze and compare complex alternatives. Action= Before posting the approved notes on the web each should have a line added that states: “approved by the Executive Committee at the 03-09-01 meeting”.
- Regarding approval of the Work Plan Revision, the management team should add text clarification to the draft QA Plan that references the other models that would be used in the EIS analysis. Also included should be reference to a separate Data Quality Assurance section that describes data quality assurance procedures, federal metadata standards as described in the Middle Rio Grande Water Supply Study, and tracking of data through the administrative record. Action= Add text clarification to QA Plan for review and concurrence by e-mail; then finalize in the Work Plan revision. The Public Involvement and Implementation Plan (PIIP) review and approval was not completed at this meeting. The PIIP does not determine funding. As resources are available, important tasks will be implemented. Action=The PIIP should be implemented via agency in-house public affairs personnel as much as possible.
- Regarding cooperating agencies, a summary of cooperating agency status was reviewed and discussed. Action= BLM should be contacted again to be a cooperating agency. The Executive committee signed the MOA with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture as a cooperating agency and will contact City of Albuquerque and the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District regarding cooperating agency status. Action= NMISC will mail MOA originals and NMDA copies and cover letters. Regarding the Work Plan and the budget, Action=the management team will get integrated management final budget numbers to the Executive Committee as soon as possible.
- Regarding Work Plan integration. Preliminary over all budget and tech team work packages were displayed as histograms for the Executive Committee. Action= the management team should get final budget numbers to the Executive committee as soon as possible with time for review before the next meeting.

Notes from March 9, 2001, Executive Committee Meeting

- Formulation of alternatives is continuing. A preliminary matrix example was furnished to the Executive committee. The Work Plan schedules show that alternatives screening criteria and no-action alternatives should be developed by June 1, 2001 and the action alternatives formulated by August 1, 2001. A draft of the universe of alternatives should go to the Executive Committee at their June meeting with a presentation to the Steering Committee at their December meeting.
- Regarding the Steering Committee, present how their feedback has helped in the Water Ops Review and EIS process at their next meeting. Action = Management team should set dates for the late April (April 27, Bataan Bldg, 9am) and June (June 19, Corps Bldg., 1:30 pm) Executive Committee meetings via e-mail, as well as for the Steering Committee meetings in June(June22, Bataan Bldg., 9 am) and December.
- Decision Analysis, Action= the management team should investigate further.
- Other: the final Scoping Summary is available on the URGWOPS web site. The draft Administrative Record procedures manual is available for review and has been furnished to the Executive Committee and the technical teams.

Approved by the Executive Committee at the _June 19, 2001_ meeting.