PVID/MWD Land Management, Crop Rotation and Water Supply Program

Presented By Ed Smith
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Palo Verde Irrigation District
PVID HISTORY

• 1877 – Thomas Blythe made first filings on Colorado River water in California.
• 1923 – Palo Verde Irrigation Dist. Act was Passed.
• 1931 – Seven Party Agreement Gives PVID Unquantified 1st Priority Water Rights for use on 104,500 acres.
PVID GOVERNANCE

• Seven Person Board.
• Votes Based on Assessed Valuation of Land.
LAW of the RIVER

• 1922 - Colorado River Compact.
• 1928 - Boulder Canyon Project Act.
• 1929 - Ca. Limitation Act.
• 1931 - Ca. Seven Party Agreement.
• 1944 - Mexican Water Treaty Agreement.
• 1964 - Az. vs. Ca. Supreme Court Decree.
• 1968 – Colorado River Basin Project Act.
• 2003 – Quantification Settlement Agreement
## SEVEN PARTY AGREEMENT

### Priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priorities</th>
<th>MAF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. PVID (104,500 acres)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Yuma Project (25,000 Acres)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. (a) IID/CVWD</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(b) PVID MESA (16,000 acres)</td>
<td>Subtotal: 3.850</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. MWD</td>
<td>Subtotal: 0.550</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. MWD</td>
<td>Subtotal: 0.662</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. IID/CVWD/PVID</td>
<td>Total: 5.062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Agricultural Use</td>
<td>All Remaining</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Notes:**
- MAF: Measured Aquifer Volume
- Each entry represents a priority among water users, with specific acreage allocations.
Program Objectives

• Develop up to 111,000 af/yr flexible and reliable water supply for a 35-year term.
• Help stabilize farm economy in the Palo Verde Valley, and further buttress the $800 billion economy of Southern California.
• Provide funds for specific community improvement programs.
• Support implementation of the California Plan.
Program Elements

- Program agreement between MWD and PVID.
- Landowner Agreements between MWD, PVID and Landowners.
- Funding for Palo Verde Community Improvement Board.
How the Program Works

• Voluntary Participation.
• 6,000 to 26,500 acres of Priority 1 lands fallowed every year District wide.
• 7% minimum fallowing.
• 29% District (35% individual landowner) maximum fallowing.
• Depends on participation level and MWD call.
Payments to Landowners

Sign-up Payment.

• One time payment of $3,170 per encumbered acre.

• Paid over 2 to 5 years per landowner’s option.

• First installment paid upon signup.
Annual Payment.

- $602 per non-irrigated acre for first year.
- Annual escalation for first 10 years: 2.5%.
- Annual escalation for remaining 25 years: CPI-subject to a 2.5% minimum and 5% maximum.
Cash Flow to a 100 Acre Farm

- Sign-up payment
  - 100 acres x 0.29 x $3170 = $91,930
- Annual Payment would range
  From:
    - Baseload water supply developed (7%)
      100 acres x 0.07 x $602/acre = $4,124/yr
  To:
    - Maximum water supply developed (29%)
      100 acres x 0.29 x $602/acre = $17,458/yr
Landowner Responsibilities

- Allow a fallowing easement on 29% of farm.
- Fallow lands as per MWD’s call.
- Implement Land Management Plans.
- Provide Program related data.
- Pay PVID water toll and taxes.
Community Improvement Program (CIP)

• A 9-member Ad-Hoc Committee formed in January 2002
• A cross section of local business and community leaders
  - PVID, MWD, City of Blythe, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Hospital, Community College, and various local business leaders.
Objective of Ad-Hoc Committee

• Formation of Community Improvement Fund Board (Board)

• Duties of Board:
  - Manage funds provided by MWD
  - Develop a Regional Business Plan
  - Develop a Local Business Plan
Payments to Community

Community

• $6 Million for community improvement programs.
• Assistance by MWD to community in hiring consultant to finalize Board formation and development of business plans.
Community Improvement Programs

- Assess effectiveness every five years.
- Any additional funding requires board approval.
Board Actions

- July 2001 – PVID and MWD Boards approved principles of agreement.
- Sept. 2002- PVID Board certified EIR.
- Oct. 2002 – MWD Board approved revised principles of agreement and appropriated funds for program.
- May 2004 – MWD Board approved revised principles of agreement and increased appropriated funds for program.
Tentative Schedule

• July 2004
  - Enter into PVID/MWD agreement.

• August 2004
  - Enter into agreements with landowners.

• January 2005
  - Begin implementation.

• August 2005
  - Full implementation.
Previous Programs

• **1992-1994 PVID/MWD Test Fallowing.**
  $620/acre/Year

• **2003 PVID/CVWD Short-Term Program.**
  $750/acre/Half Year
Web Site

• PVID.org