

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 79-18

MODIFYING THE DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY'S
DECISION TO DENY GRANT FUNDING FOR STEP I
STUDIES OF RECLAMATION USES IN BIG BEAR
BASIN.

WHEREAS:

1. In 1976, Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency (BBARWA) completed facilities planning for the Big Bear area which determined that reclamation in Big Bear Basin was not then feasible and resulted in approval of a project involving reclamation in Lucerne Valley.
2. It was agreed at that time that if reclamation alternatives in Big Bear Basin should become feasible the planning study would be reopened only if the State Department of Health and the Santa Ana Regional Board indicated approval of any discharge involved in the in-basin alternatives and if the alternatives proposed would be cost-effective.
3. BBARWA has submitted a feasibility report describing various alternatives for in-basin uses, including winter snow-making and summer slope irrigation.
4. The Regional Board and other agencies have indicated support for additional study of in-basin reclamation uses. However, the Regional Board cannot approve in-basin reclamation uses without further definition of the type of project involved and the effects thereof. In addition, the present feasibility report does not adequately demonstrate that any of the proposed uses are sufficiently cost-effective to be implementable or that agencies and other persons involved in the proposed uses are sufficiently committed to reasonably assure implementation of any of the uses proposed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the decision of the Division of Water Quality be modified to allow grant funding of Step I studies of proposed reclamation uses in the Big Bear Basin (including groundwater recharge in Rathbone Basin, direct discharge to Big Bear Lake, ski slope irrigation and snow making, and delivery to Baldwin Lake) under the following terms and conditions:


- a. Prior to undertaking the study of any of the alternatives proposed, BBARWA shall secure formal written agreements from all local, state and federal agencies, and other parties (including potential users of reclaimed water) whose approval or cooperation is necessary for the successful implementation of the project alternative to be studied. These agreements shall commit all parties to participate in a series of negotiations concerning the proposed alternative.

A work plan outlining specific milestones in the study shall be included in the agreements, and negotiations shall occur at each of the milestones identified. The first milestone in the work plans shall be to reach an agreement in principle that the project should be implemented, and identifying major issues to be resolved in future negotiations and to be addressed in the project study. These agreements shall be subject to review and approval by the Executive Director. If at any time during negotiations on a proposed project alternative any party whose approval or cooperation is necessary for the successful implementation of that alternative indicates that he will not be able to give his approval or to participate in the project, the study of that proposal shall be terminated and grant funding shall cease.

- b. Prior to undertaking the study of any of the alternatives, BBARWA shall also demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Executive Director of the State Board that funds will be available for the local share of the cost of planning, design and construction of each of the alternatives to be studied.
2. That no grant payments be made for any Step I work before all applicable requirements of paragraphs 1.a. and 1.b. above have been satisfied.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on March 15, 1979.


Larry F. Walker
Executive Director