

Phosphorus Blue-Ribbon Panel

Supporting Compliance Towards Watershed Restoration

Board of Public Utilities Meeting
April 5, 2018



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Overview

What is the Phosphorus Blue-Ribbon Panel (BRP)?

- Who will participate?
- What is the purpose?
- Schedule?
- Desired outcomes?

Panel Members

Diverse group of stakeholders

- Non-governmental organizations
- State and Federal Regulators
- Business representatives
- Academics



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Phosphorus BRP

- Who: A group of professionals assembled to discuss a single topic
- Focus: Phosphorus, Compliance, Rates
- Outcome: Guidelines for development of alternative discharge compliance framework

BRRP Information Topics

- Natural history of the Laguna de Santa Rosa
- Introduction to Recycled Water Reuse Program
- History of NPDES Permit discharges
 - No net loading of phosphorus requirement
 - Nutrient Offset Program
- Effects of regulations on sewer rates/ratepayers

Purpose of BRP

Explore alternative means of compliance to support watershed restoration:

- Provide a consistent compliance approach
- Support ongoing, reliable water quality benefits in the Laguna watershed
- Assure ratepayers with cost-effective phosphorus reductions

Status quo is not okay.

Schedule

- Three meetings 3-4 hours long each
- Start late April finish by early June
- Provide summary report for BPU review early July
- Submit findings to Regional Board in August

Desired Outcomes

- Remove no net loading of phosphorus requirement in NPDES permit renewal. Replace with alternative compliance approach.
- Create information-sharing and collaboration between the City, NGOs, regulators, business community and academic institutions.
- Assure ratepayers that rates meet regulations in the most cost-effective, environmentally beneficial manner.

Questions?



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