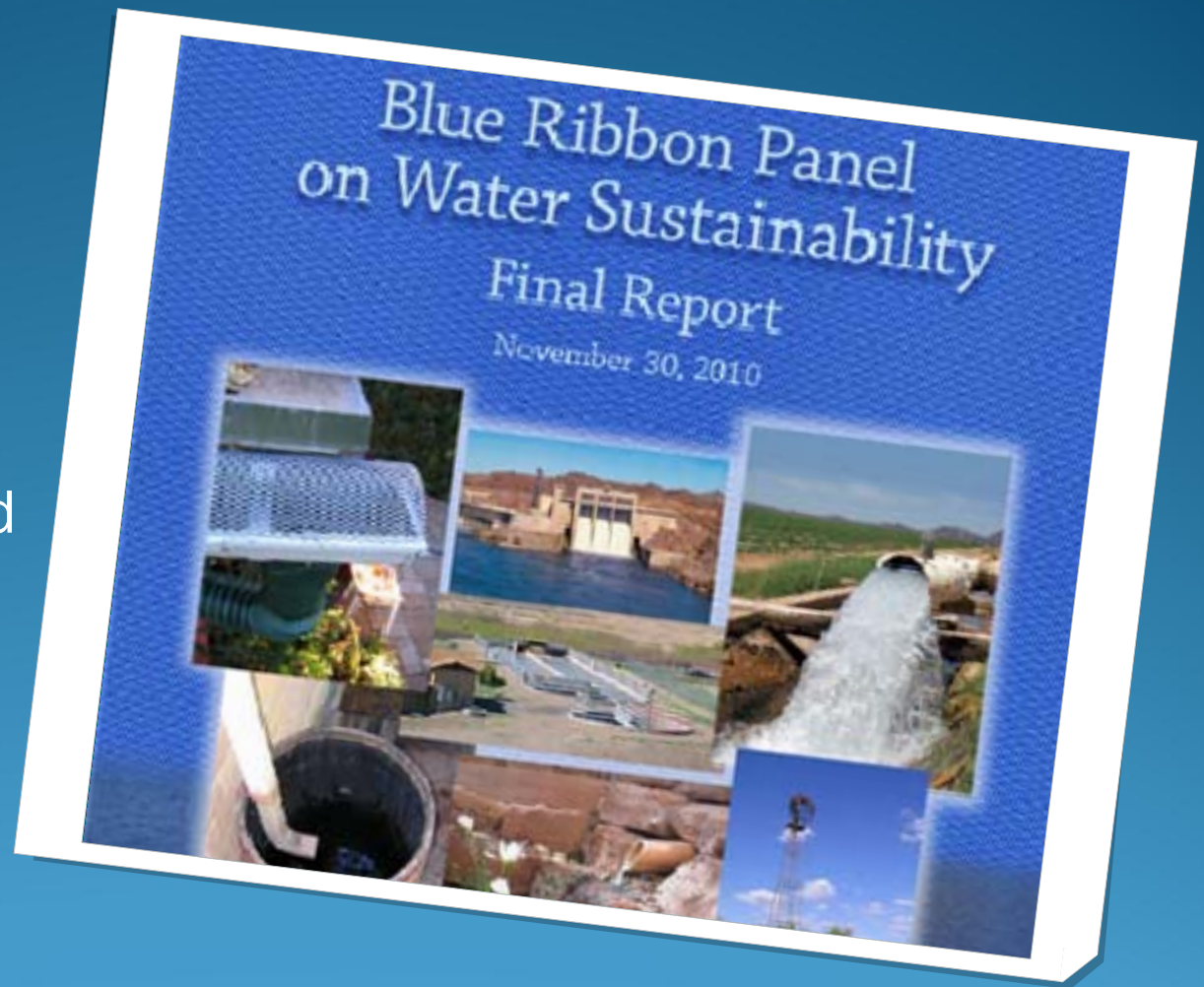


*An Overview of the Blue Ribbon Panel
on Water Sustainability and the Water
Resources Development Commission*

*Laura Grignano, ADWR
WESTMARC March 1st 2011*

Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability

On August 28, 2009, Governor Brewer announced the formation of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Water Sustainability.



Recognizing the importance of collaboration, the Governor announced joint chairmanship of the Panel by:

Arizona Department of Water Resources
Director Herb Guenther

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Director Ben Grumbles

Arizona Corporation Commission
Chairman Kris Mayes

- ✓ 40 Members were appointed to the Panel (Handout #1)
- ✓ Panel held its first meeting on January 8, 2010
- ✓ Challenged to identify and overcome obstacles to increased water sustainability by increasing reuse, recycling, and conservation while supporting continued economic development

Panel members agreed to the goal of providing recommendations on statute, rule, and policy changes that, by 2020, would significantly:

- 1) Increase use of reclaimed water in place of potable
- 2) Advance water conservation, increase efficiency and reuse
- 3) Reduce the amount of energy needed to deliver, treat, and reclaim water
- 4) Reduce the amount of water required to produce and provide energy by Arizona power providers
- 5) Increase public awareness and acceptance of reclaimed water

Panel created 5 working groups:

- Public Perception/Acceptance
- Regulations and Permitting
- Infrastructure/Retrofit
- Conservation/Recycling/Efficiency/Energy Nexus
- Economic/Funding

- The Working Groups held 58 meetings, involving 320 individuals
- Identified numerous issues summarized into an Interim Report (July, 2010)
- The Working Groups developed “white papers” on 26 priority issues and 18 sets of recommendations resulted

The 18 sets of recommendations (Handout #2) were approved by the Panel and were combined and categorized into five categories:

A. Education/Outreach

B. Standards

C. Information Development and Research

D. Regulatory Improvements

E. Incentives

A. EDUCATION / OUTREACH

A.1- Increasing Public Awareness

- Create a coalition to assist in the translation of industry terminology into acceptable lexicon
- Create a state-hosted information portal
- Continue existing statewide awareness campaign to help encourage culture of conservation

A.2 -Pharmaceuticals

- Expand take-back programs
- Fund education and outreach
- Change statutes to require proper disposal info on medications

B. STANDARDS

B.1-Matching Supplies to appropriate use

- evaluate incentives that encourage the use of lower quality supplies

B.2 -Developing Comprehensive Reclaimed Water Infrastructure Standards

- compile a matrix of reuse standards and develop suite of standards to provide common foundation of safety and good engineering practices for reclaimed systems

B.3 Facilitating Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR)

- create committee to further advance IPR

B. STANDARDS (continued)

B.4 Operator Certification for Reclaimed Water Distribution Systems

B.5-Water/Energy Standards

- promote discussion among water and energy planners
- Amend statute to specify that “water resource impacts” be considered in issuing a CEC

B.6 –Permitting Inconsistencies

- Convene stakeholder process to id. inconsistencies among ADEQ, ADWR and ACC, develop flow chart

C.INFORMATION DEVELOPMENT & RESEARCH

C.1 – Coordinating & Streamlining Data Submission

- ADEQ and ADWR develop a common database

C.2 – Promote research on Human Health Effects

- Develop strategic plan and standards for emerging contaminants

C.3 – Water/Energy Nexus

- Facilitate an AZ specific study of water and energy and evaluate impacts dry/hybrid cooling technologies
- Create an information clearing house

C.4 – Rainwater Harvesting & Stormwater Research

D. REGULATORY IMPROVEMENTS

D.1- Encourage Use of Alternative Water Supplies

- Modify rules/policies dealing with comingling of remediated and reclaimed

D.2 – Eliminate Duplicate Regulations & Fees

D.3 – Update Reclaimed Water Quality Standards

- ADEQ should develop a new general permit for commercial and municipal gray water
- Revise standards for some gray water systems and uses

D.4 – Address Unique Situations in Recharge, Reuse and AZPDES Permits

E. INCENTIVES

E.1 – Develop, Expand and Promote Tax

Credits/Exemptions for Use of Alternative Water Supplies

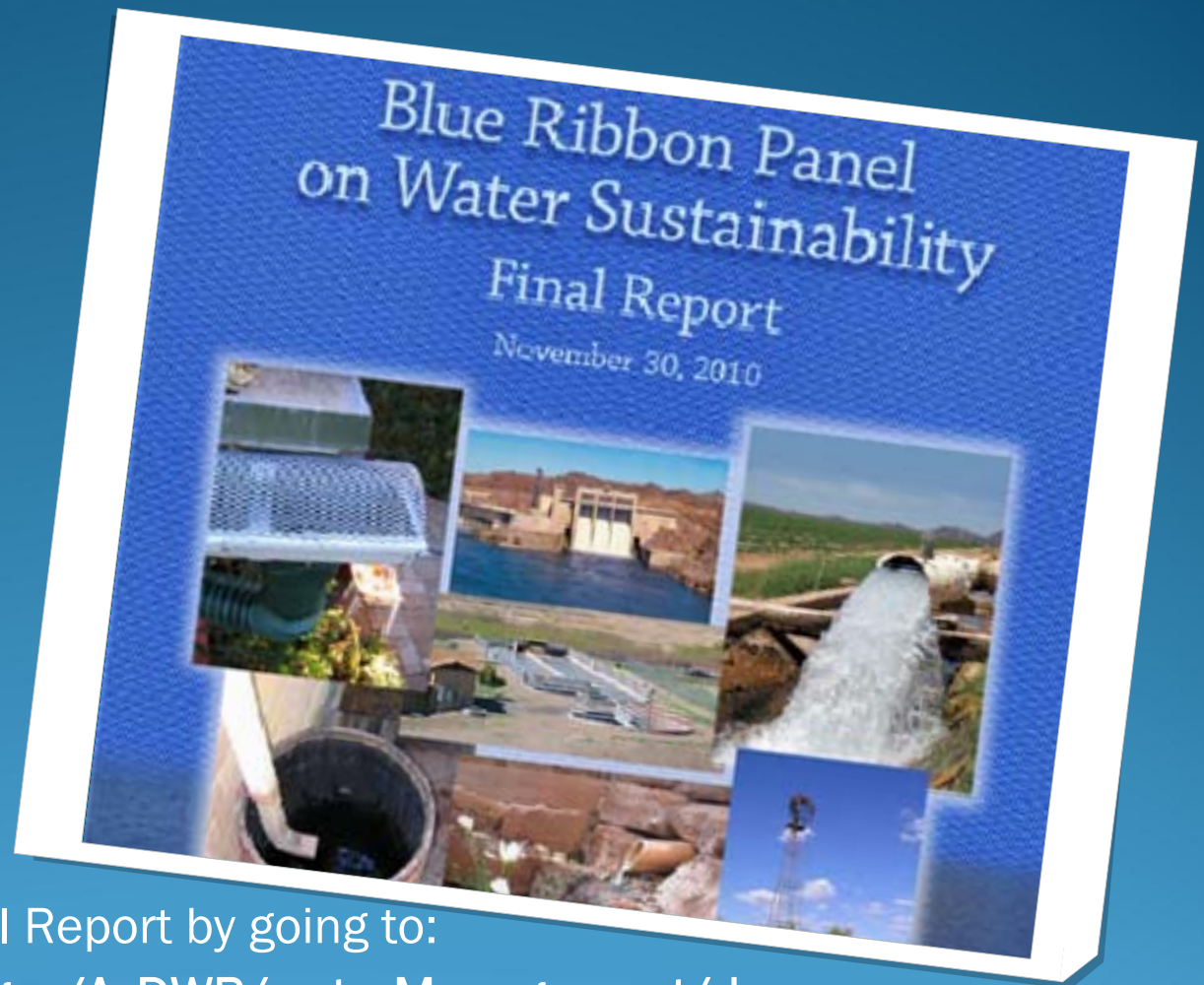
- Extend tax incentives for residential rain/gray water storage systems
- Expand tax credit for reclaimed water infrastructure capital investment thru legislation
- Consider general policy changes that would create incentives to use alternative water supplies

All of the recommendations of the Panel now move forward for consideration by Governor, Legislature, ADEQ, ADWR, ACC

Large portion of the recommendations involve implementation by ADEQ and ADWR which will challenge the two agencies in light of recent budget cuts

Panel recommends no new regulatory programs, instead includes improvements to AZ's existing toolbox of programs, education and research

FINAL REPORT
NOW
AVAILABLE



You can find the Final Report by going to:
http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/waterManagement/documents/BRP_Final_Report-12-1-10.pdf

*Water Resources Development
Commission (WRDC)*

Last year, the Arizona Legislature passed H.B. 2661 that creates the Water Resources Development Commission for the purposes of assessing the current and future water needs of Arizona.

The bill was sponsored by Representative Tobin and was the result of discussions held by the Statewide Water Advisory Group (SWAG).

HB 2661 states that:

- Director of the Arizona Department of Water Resources (now acting Director Sandra Fabritz-Whitney) serves as the Chairperson and shall appoint the Commission.
- The Commission must possess knowledge about various water management issues and represent a regional cross-section of the state. (Handout #3)

The Water Resources Development Commission will:

1. Compile and consider the projected water needs of each Arizona county in the next 25, 50 and 100 years
2. Identify and Quantify the water supplies currently available in each county
3. Identify potential water supplies to meet additional demands (25, 50, 100 yrs.) and the legal and technical issues associated with using those supplies
4. Identify potential mechanisms for financing the acquisition, treatment and delivery of water supplies
5. Make recommendations regarding further studies and evaluations

Arizona Groundwater Basins, Counties and Indian Reservations



Nevada

Colorado City

Utah

Colorado

VIRGIN RIVER

GRAND WASH

SHIMMITS PLATEAU

KANAB PLATEAU

PARIA

Page

Kayenta

Grand Canyon Village

Kykotsmovi

Window Rock

Bullhead City

MEADVIEW

PEACH SPRINGS

COCONINO COUNTY

COCONINO PLATEAU

LITTLE COLORADO RIVER PLATEAU

NAVAJO COUNTY

APACHE COUNTY

HUALAPAI VALLEY

SACRAMENTO VALLEY

LAKE MOHAVE

LAKE WASH

PARKER

BUTLER VALLEY

MCMULLEN VALLEY

VASH

HARQUAHUA PLAIN

YAVAPAI COUNTY

BILL WILLIAMS

WESTERN MEXICAN SUB-BASIN

Peach Springs

Williams

Flagstaff

Sedona

Cottonwood

PRESCOTT AMA

Prescott

UPPER HASSAYAMP

AGUA FRIA

PHOENIX AMA

MARICOPA COUNTY

GILA BEND

GILA BEND

PINAL COUNTY

PINAL AMA

PIMA COUNTY

SAN SIMON WASH

VERDE RIVER

TONTO CREEK

PAYSON

GILA COUNTY

GLOBE

FLORENCE

TUCSON

TUCSON AMA

SANTA CRUZ AMA

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Nogales

SAN RAFAEL

Winslow

JOSEPH CITY, INA

Holbrook

Payson

SALT RIVER

Globe

PHOENIX

Gila Bend

Florence

Tucson

Tucson

Tucson

Tucson

Tucson

Winslow

Holbrook

Payson

SALT RIVER

Globe

Phoenix

Gila Bend

Florence

Tucson

Tucson

Tucson

Tucson

Tucson

Saint Johns

Show Low

Springerville

Morenci

Greenlee County

Clifton

Safford

Safford

Safford

Safford

Safford

Safford

New Mexico

Mexico



Formed 5 Working Groups/Committees:

- 1) Population Committee
- 2) Water Supply/Demand Committee
 - 1) Municipal Subcommittee
 - 2) Industrial Subcommittee
 - 3) Agricultural Subcommittee
 - 4) Supply Subcommittee
 - 5) Indian Issues (ITCA)
- 3) Environmental Committee
- 4) Finance Committee
- 5) Report Committee

Progress to date

- Population Committee has developed 3 population scenarios out to 2110 (low, medium and high)
- Handed off these numbers to the Supply and Demand Committee and subcommittees and is currently finalizing its Report
- Soon, Water Demand and Supply will compile water demand projections and quantify existing water supplies. Their report will also include environmental tables and maps of current environmental resources statewide.

Next Steps

- Identify Unmet Demand
- Identify potential water supplies
- Identify legal and technical issues
- Identify finance mechanisms
- Develop recommendations regarding need
- Prepare Report of Findings (October 1, 2011)

http://www.azwater.gov/AzDWR/WaterManagement/WRDC_HB2661/

Find out more about the Water Resources Development Commission, upcoming scheduled meetings, agendas, past meeting summaries, presentations, etc. at the link above.