

Hicks-Ray Associates



February 9, 2009

TO: WESTCAS Members
FROM: Fred B. Hicks and Tom Ray
SUBJECT: Stimulus Updates

There is so much confusion and there are so many stories in the media with regard to the Stimulus that we thought we would weigh in the day before the Senate vote tomorrow and provide you with some important updates with regard to key sections of the Stimulus.

We have attached two documents for your information and review:

- The portion of the amendment offered by Senator Collins of Maine [please see attached] that addresses the Energy and Water Development Appropriations section of the Stimulus including the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. The Collins amendment will likely be passed as the Senate version of the Stimulus.
- We have highlighted portions of the amendment language that are particularly relevant to WESTCAS members including the \$200,000,000 set-aside in Corps funding for Environmental Infrastructure and the \$110,000,000 provided in the Bureau of Reclamation Account for Title 16 funding.
- The “hereafter and heretofore” language and the “environmental set-language has huge potential implications for WESTCAS members and will be the subject of future reports.
- **We will urge WESTCAS to express its strong support for the “hereafter and heretofore” language and the environmental infrastructure set-aside since these are only in the Senate version of the bill and not in the House. This difference must be resolved in conference and this is an opportunity for WESTCAS to join with others and make its voice heard.**
- We have provided details on an attempted amendment offered by Senator Murray of Washington State and Senator Feinstein of California [please see attached] that would have more than doubled SRF Clean Water and Drinking water funding in the Senate version of the Stimulus from \$6.4 to \$13.4 billion.

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