

**Minutes**  
**Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board**  
**July 2, 2009**  
**2:30– 4:30 p.m.**

**Mercer Island Council Chambers**  
**9611 SE 36<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Mercer Island, WA 98040**

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Board Alternates</u>	<u>Wholesale Utility Representatives</u>	<u>SPU Attendees</u>	<u>Other Attendees</u>
Walt Canter John Bjork Roger Eberhart Matt Everett Ray Hoffman Nancy Ahern	Terry Smith Ron Speer John Thompson	Gary Cline Mark Parsons Steve Moye Margaret Wiggins Fanny Yee	Dan Swenson Terri Gregg Eugene Mantchev Regina Carpenter	Tom Hoffman Byron Murgatroyd Alan Hartman Chris Cordi Bob Bandarra

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Minutes/Agenda

The May 7, 2009 minutes were approved by consent of the Operating Board.

3. New Business

- 2008 Wholesale True-up – Report and Approval
  
- Tolt Transmission Supply Line – Status Report

Eugene Mantchev gave a presentation on the status of the Tolt Pipeline between the Regulating Basin and the Treatment Plant. In area of a historical slide, TPL#1 and #2 are slowly moving. The January 2009 rain on snow event made the site conditions worse. After this rain event, TPL#2 was taken out of service and SPU began to conduct additional slope and site monitoring and installed additional SCADA equipment on the pipelines. Also, remote control of the valves were added at the head of the pipelines in the Tolt Screen hose, so as facilitate the shutdown of the pipelines should there break in the pipelines. During a leak detection study it was determined that TPL #1 had 3 leaking joints

and the flow from the leaks was about 20,000 gallons per day. These leaks are contributing to the slope movement.

TPL#2 was brought back on line when the SCADA and valve work was completed and then TPL#1 was shutdown for additional inspection. Acoustic leak detection done on TPL#2 found no leaks. The inspection of TPL #1 revealed several pulled joints in the area of the leakage; the largest gap was about 1 inch. Crushed joints were also found in the 1,600 feet of the pipeline that was inspected. It was noted that if the pipelines were to be shutdown flow to customers would not be interrupted due to the storage in the treatment plant clearwell.

As a part of the analysis of improvement options it is assumed that:

- At least one pipeline must be in service at all times
- TPL#1 will not go back in service unless leaks are fixed, at a minimum
- TPL#2 is "safe" as long as the slope does not begin to move
- Slope movement will restart during the wet season
- TPL#2 may fail as a result of modest incremental slope movement
- TPL#2 desired to be available for service by May 15, 2010

Three options were evaluated by SPU. The preferred option (#3) is to:

- Replace approximately 1,000 feet of TPL#1 by the end of October 2009
- Add expansion couplings to allow movement with the moving ground
- After TPL#1 is back in service, relieve the stress in TPL#2

The current estimated costs of the improvements are between \$1.5 and \$1.8 million.

SPU has taken other actions to be prepared for a pipeline break;

- Assure facilities that would be called upon in case of a Tolt outage are fully functional
- Assure fast and coordinated response to emergency by SPU staff
- Talk to wholesale customers
- Have spare pipe and butt straps available
- Plan for alternate access to the Tolt watershed

The Operating Board unanimously passed a motion of support for SPU choosing improvement option #3.



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**Presentation: Tolt Pipeline Slide – History, Status and Improvement Options (July 2, 2009)**

4. Executive Summaries and Other Business

It was noted that the following items had been provided in the Operating Board meeting packet. Members were requested to provide to Dan Swenson any suggested changes to the Work Plan.

- Drinking Water Quality Report – 2008
- Operating Board Work Plan
- Water Supply Status Report – June 17, 2009

Future Meetings

- August 6<sup>th</sup>
- September 3<sup>rd</sup>

5. For the Good of the Order

- Cascade Water Alliance Letter to Seattle Public Utilities (June 24, 2009)

Ray Hoffman handed out a letter that he received from the Cascade Water Alliance expressing interest in extending their existing Block Contract, including the Supplemental Block. Cascade is also interested in exploring additional increments of supplemental block capacity. Ray indicated that he will be preparing a response to the letter and he asked for input from the Operating Board members. A number of members expressed general support for the request given the changing regional water demand projections and the economic condition.



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Cascade Water Alliance Letter to SPU (June 24, 2009)

6. Public Comment Period


No comments provided.

7. Meeting Adjourned

Approved by:

  
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Chair, Walt Canter

  
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Date

Seattle Water Supply System Operating Board

