Congressional Authorization  
Needed for Title Transfer

Local water resource agencies are working closely with state and federal officials to assess the cost, benefits and impacts of a potential title transfer to determine what is in the best interest of the US government, the applicants and the public. The Partners are also working closely with Oregon’s Congressional delegation to secure federal funding to assess the current condition of the facilities under consideration as part of the overall investigation.

Title Transfer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Completion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Review</td>
<td>Spring 2007</td>
<td>Summer 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Review Process</td>
<td>Spring 2007</td>
<td>ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Governance Agreement</td>
<td>Spring 2007</td>
<td>Summer 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congressional Authorization</td>
<td>Spring 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contacts

**Washington County**

155 N. First Avenue, Room 300  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124  
Phone: (503) 846-8681, Fax: (503) 846-4545

Tom Brian, Chairman  
Washington County Board of Commissioners and  
Clean Water Services Board of Directors

Dennis Mulvihill  
Government Affairs Officer  
Phone: (503) 846-4441  
dennis.mulvihill@co.washington.or.us

**Washington, D.C. Contact**

Thane Young  
Van Scoy Associates  
Phone: (202) 538-1950  
thyoung@vsadc.com

**Clean Water Services**

2650 SW Hillboro Highway  
Hillsboro, Oregon 97123  
Phone: (503) 681-3600, Fax: (503) 681-3603  
www.CleanWaterServices.org

Bill Gaffi, General Manager  
Phone: (503) 681-3600  
gaffib@CleanWaterServices.org

Tom Vanderplaat  
Water Supply Project Manager  
Phone: (503) 681-5107  
vanderplaat@CleanWaterServices.org

Mark Jockers  
Government & Public Affairs Mgr  
Phone: (503) 681-4450  
jockersm@CleanWaterServices.org

Title Transfer Cooperating Agencies

City of Beaverton  
Mayor Rob Drake  
(503) 526-2481

City of Forest Grove  
Mayor Richard Kidd  
(503) 359-3200

City of Hillsboro  
Mayor Tom Hughes  
(503) 681-6139

Lake Oswego Corp  
Mark Eves, Board of Directors  
(503) 227-6226

City of Tigard  
Mayor Craig Dirkson  
(503) 639-4171

Clean Water Services  
Tom Brian, Chair  
(503) 681-3600

Tualatin Valley Irrigation Dist.  
Jim Love, Chair  
(503) 357-3118

Tualatin Valley Water District  
Richard Burke, Chair  
(503) 642-1511

Washington County  
Tom Brian, Chair  
(503) 681-4888

US Bureau of Reclamation  
James Heuss, Asst. Director for Operations & Maint.  
(213) 374-0543

Mike Raff, Activity Manager Pacific NW Region  
(503) 573-5456

Ron Eggers, Local Area Manager  
(503) 879-3975

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Larry Evans, Branch Chief  
(503) 808-4370

Judy Linton, Project Manager  
(503) 808-4382

"If we can reduce our costs through local ownership of the irrigation facilities, then we need to consider that.”  
Jim Love, Tualatin Valley Irrigation District Board Chair
Federal appropriations of $106,000 requested to study Tualatin Project Title Transfer

Cooperating agencies for the Tualatin Project Title Transfer are requesting $106,000 in FY 2009 to complete the US Bureau of Reclamation’s portion of the facilities assessment. Local agencies will fund the balance of the project. Total cost for the project is estimated to be $1 million. Federal appropriations of $394,000 in FY 2008 provided partial funding for this facility assessment.

Local water agencies consider ownership of Tualatin Project

Washington County, Oregon water resource agencies are working closely with the federal government to consider a full or partial transfer of the Bureau of Reclamation’s Tualatin Project (Scoggins Dam, related facilities, and other real property) from the United States to local ownership. Reclamation’s “Framework for Transfer of Title” (August, 1995) encourages the federal government to consider the “…transfer title of facilities that could be efficiently and effectively managed by non-federal entities.” Title transfer has been further reinforced by Reclamation’s “Managing for Excellence” action plan (February 2006) that calls for the study of “…where opportunities exist for mutually beneficial transfer of title to project sponsors in order to eliminate Reclamation’s responsibility and costs for those facilities.”

Transfer would streamline water resource management and reduce federal obligations

Title transfer offers several potential benefits to both local water resource managers and the federal government. Local ownership and control of facilities and water rights will reduce decision-making complexity, improve flexibility and allow for the more efficient management of water resources in the Tualatin Basin. Title transfer would also allow the federal government to divest itself of responsibility for ongoing operation, maintenance, replacement, management, regulation of, and liability for the project.

“Transferring title to local ownership would reduce the federal government’s long-term costs while saving time, money and improving our ability to manage water resources in the Tualatin Basin.”

Tom Brian, Washington County Commission and Clean Water Services’ Board Chair

Tualatin Project Facilities

The Tualatin Project facilities currently owned by Reclamation include:

- **Scoggins Dam**
  - 151 foot-high zoned earthfill structure
  - Spillway, Intake structure and Outlet works

- **Hagg Lake and Adjoining Federal lands**
  - 2600 acres of reservoir and federal lands
  - Recreational Facilities (6 sites)
  - Perimeter Road (11 miles)

- **Irrigation Facilities (TVID)**
  - Springhill and Patton Valley Pump Plants
  - 98.5 miles pipeline
  - Lands and easements
  - District office and other structures

Local water resource agencies currently own and operate Barney Reservoir which provides municipal water and river flow augmentation water for communities in the Tualatin Basin. Coordination of dam operations could be improved with local ownership of the Tualatin Project. Local ownership could also offer significant time and cost savings for future improvement to the facilities.

Title Transfer earns strong support

The repayment contract holders for the existing facility have passed resolutions supporting the consideration of Title Transfer. These agencies include the Tualatin Valley Irrigation District (TVID), Clean Water Services, the cities of Hillsboro, Beaverton and Forest Grove, and Washington County. Other water supply partners including Tualatin Valley Water District (TVWD) and the City of Tigard are also joining in the study of Title Transfer. Many of these local partners will also provide funding for the study of Title Transfer.

“The Partners should consider Reclamation’s Title Transfer Program.”

John Keys III, US Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner (retired), November 2005