Central Iowa Regional Water Working Group



Regionalization Findings

October 2018





Can it Work?

There are \$327 million reasons why it could







1. REDUCES TOTAL COSTS FOR THE REGION

2. REDUCES OPERATIONAL RISKS

3. IMPROVES THE OWNERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE MODELS

4. PROVIDES NET ECONOMIC BENEFITS



Reduces Total Costs for Region



Present Value of Dollars Invested in Water Production Capacity Regionally by Scenario (\$ M)



- \$64M direct savings
- 4x 2nd-order effects
 - Less fixed O&M
 - Less annual capital cost





With coordination, the region can install less capacity at a more moderate pace, and spend less money in total.







The region spends less money supporting idle capacity resulting in higher utilization rates and lower average costs per unit.





Reduces Operational Risks



One plant gives one layer of reliability



When it doesn't work, there is no water





Multiple plants means multiple layers





Multiple plants also leads to multiple options to produce at lowest cost





These benefits are real but they won't show up in our analysis directly



Under the status quo, several members avoid the costs of redundant production – leads to favoring status quo in our analysis



It's important to consider the unquantified benefits in addition to the quantified ones





Improves Ownership & Governance Models



STATUS QUO

REGIONAL AUTHORITY



The regional model provides shared ownership and shared governance over the crucial water production assets.





STATUS QUO REGIONAL MODEL Regional Owns the assets and Owns the assets and **DMWW** incurs all the costs incurs all the costs Authority Pay for a portion of the All costs are allocated to Wholesale **Members** costs based on DMWW members based on Customers allocation process Authority's cost allocation processes. Whatever is not paid is absorbed by DMWW and **Residual Costs** its retail and total service customers.

Changing the ownership model shifts responsibility for production costs from a single owner (DMWW) to multiple ones

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allocated more of the growth-related costs





Produces Net Economic Benefits





- \$544M in benefits
- (\$217M) in costs
- \$327M in net benefits







Increased/Decreased Governance

With respect to the governance of the crucial regional infrastructure and decisions.

Net Benefit / Cost

As compared to each member's status quo scenario.



Net Present Value Benefits and Costs by Regional Member (\$M 2020)



- Mixed results were <u>expected</u>
- Each member starts from a different point
- Each member has different future circumstances
- Changes in regional structure produce different outcomes



THE MEMBERS

Grimes

Urbandale

Waukee

BIGGEST REASONS WHY

- Benefit from improved scale and cheaper production input costs
- The regional model is just less expensive overall





- Cost of producing is much cheaper with regional model
- Region provides much greater economies of scale for Grimes
- Grimes' fast growth is cheaper under regional model





\$161.2M

- Status quo assumes construction of own facilities at higher cost
- Use their own facility instead of purchased capacity





\$24.7M

- Short term cost from regionalization due to cheaper joint facility with WDMWW.
- Long-term cost savings from regionalization due to lower levels of unused capacity.





THE MEMBERS

WDMWW Polk City Altoona Warren Rural Ankeny Norwalk Clive Johnston Bondurant Xenia

BIGGEST REASONS WHY

- Change to ownership model shifts more ownership costs to these members
- Those communities growing fastest see largest shift, due to regional allocation
- Communities with high peak demand see large shift as well
- Those who made past contributions see lower impacts
- The "invisible" benefits should be a consideration for these members





- Status quo costs less due to joint plant with Waukee and AC Ward
- Added capacity in later periods leads to underutilized capacity, higher avg. costs





(\$3.1)M

- Regional and status quo are about the same
- In later periods, there is a built-in benefit due to capacity timing issues





(\$7.3)M

- Regional cost is more expensive initially due to shift of ownership costs
- Altoona constructs its own capacity in status quo, at lower cost
- Status quo costs become more expensive due to low economies of scale





(\$7.3)M

- Regional costs driven by shift in ownership model and increased share of costs
- Past contributions help
 moderate results





(\$18.9)M

- Costs are about the same until later years
- Built-in benefit in later years due to differences in timing of capacity investments
- Most of the "cost" comes from those later years





(\$14.3)M

- Costs are about the same until later years
- Built-in benefit in later years due to differences in timing of capacity investments
- Most of the "cost" comes from those later years





(\$21.5)M

- Regional costs driven by Clive's high peak demand; shifting more costs to them
- 100% of status quo costs from favorable purchased capacity rate





(\$33.3)M

- Regional costs eventually overtake status quo due to Johnston's high peak demand.
- Johnston's status quo is 100% w/ storage rate
- Status quo costs trend lower due to a number of factors related to timing of capacity investments and scale





(\$39.5)M

- Regional model shifts costs to Bondurant, especially growth-related costs
- Status quo costs driven by increasing reliance on w/storage rate





(\$70.1)M

 Regional costs driven heavily by growth in avg. and peak demands





THE MEMBERS

DMWW

BIGGEST REASONS WHY

- Shifts current ownership costs and responsibilities to more members
- Monetizes cost and value of production assets
- From "sole owner" to "partner"



\$265M

Major cost savings come from its asset contributions to the Authority, which are credits against its cost for many years into the future. More costs shared to the region reduces DMWW cost burdens.





\$543.5M

Concentrated among 4 member communities \$216.5M

Spread among 10 member communities

Making the regional approach work for you will mean finding a way to share the benefits more widely

Vs.





\$543.5 (216.5)

\$327.1

- It will entail sharing benefits for the sake of keeping the region viable
- 4 members would give up some of the benefit so that the others can at least break even
- Those 4 members still come out ahead in doing so
- It could be accomplished with some simple rate adjustments

The 4 member communities who benefit most need regionalization in order to realize those benefits







Consider the unseen benefits in addition to these analyses.

An appropriate question to ask is "how much is it worth to get things like redundancy and shared governance?"





The Path Ahead



Legal

- Gain wider consensus
- Forming a 28E/F (or other)
- Form the Authority

Financial

- Establish Authority's financial systems
- 1st –round financing
- Formation transactions

Technical

- System assessment
- Capital planning & execution
- Operating agreements



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