

## **Welcome, Introductions, and Conference Overview**

### **Welcome:**

- On behalf of the Water Advocates
- Thanks for choosing to spend your Saturday with us
- We hope you will find it a worthwhile use of your time
- Our goal is to kick off a process to deal with our over-promises for water amid a dwindling supply

### **Introductions:**

- We have several elected officials and representatives with us today
- I'd ask them to please stand up and introduce themselves

### **Who are we?**

- The MRG Water Advocates are a recently re-named MRG Water Assembly
- The Water Assembly was established as an all-volunteer non-profit in 1997, at request of OSE
- Role was to develop a regional water plan for Sandoval, Bernalillo and Valencia Counties
- With a sound technical basis and an extensive, open inclusive public process
- Serious overuse/depletion of the region's water resources recommendations for remedy
- Resulting plan was delivered to and accepted by the state's planning agency, the ISC in 2004
- After coordinating the Regional Water Plan, the Assembly conducted annual informational sessions
- The sessions brought multiple, balanced viewpoints to the stage on controversial water issues
- Seeing insufficient improvements in our water situation, we re-evaluated our role.
- Looked at strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats
- Chose to direct our resources to focus on an advocacy role rather than neutral convener
- Changed name and focus from Water Assembly to Water Advocates
- Changed our viewshed from political (3 counties) to the hydrologic (Compact's Otowi to EB)
- Today is our first major event with the goal of pressing for substantial change

**( over)**

## **Today's Session:**

- Before break, setting the stage – what are we facing, the issues that need to be addressed
- After break, presenting a proposal for making a change we need, first an overview and then some detail
- Working lunch – you folks will be asked to elect this year's directors for the Water Advocates
- After lunch moving from concept to action – how to sell a resolution to our over-promise traditions
- Discussion of some proposed legislation
- Setting us up to build the needed political will – getting you all involved
- ... All with intermittent periods for questions, comments, and discussion

## **Now, for the pre-break stage setting:**

- We have Dagmar Llewellyn and Laura Paskus discussing our water supply issues, current and future
- A panel of five individuals will briefly identify several flavors of personal impacts
- Followed by Adrian Oglesby with an exposition of leadership issues