

1 What is the purpose of this Study?

The water meter replacement and solar array feasibility study would address a primary concern in Allensworth: properly accounting for water use and collecting revenue, while managing expenses and keeping bills low for the community. Replacing old meters with more efficient ones will improve reading accuracy and help conserve water. The two components, meter replacement and a solar array for the District, would be studied and designed so that they are ready to be implemented at the conclusion of this project.

The Study will estimate potential water savings gained through the replacement of meters, investigate the cost of replacing the water meters and installing a solar array system, as well as identify the potential financial, environmental, and operational benefits attributed with a new metering system. Based on these findings, the Study will review options and make recommendations for selecting the most appropriate water metering system and location for a solar array.

2 How is this Study funded?

This study was funded by the Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program. The 2016 IRWM Program was established by Proposition 1, which provides funding to assist water infrastructure systems adapt to climate change, provide incentives for water agencies throughout each watershed to collaborate in management the regional water resources, and setting regional priorities for water infrastructure, and improve regional water self-reliance, while reducing reliance on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The program aims to improve regional water self-reliance security and adapt to the effects on water supply as a result of climate change.



Questions?
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Water Meter Replacement & Solar Array Feasibility Study

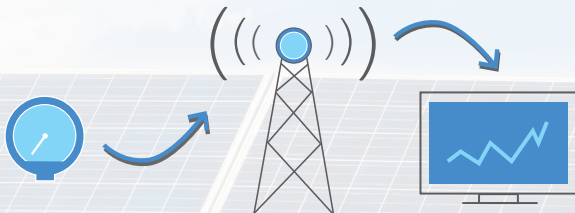


3 How will this Study benefit our community?

This Study will help identify appropriate water meter replacement options and location of a solar array system that will be the best fit for Allensworth Community Service District. The implementation of the Study will ultimately result in modern, cost effective and efficient services that will benefit Allensworth and its customers. Replacing the manually read meters can result in an increase amount of annual water savings that may be lost to leaks and over consumption. Water conserved will also help supplement the region's finite water supply. Through the replacement of water meters, a more precise reading of water use and collection will enable a more accurate distribution of costs for Allensworth residents. The proposed water meters and installation of a solar array system will help reduce overall cost, such as those associated with staffing and energy expenses.

4 What will my meters be replaced with?

This Study will evaluate and assess the cost and benefits of replacing the existing meters with AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure). Also known as smart meters, AMI are updated, digital versions of the traditional meter. AMI meters automatically sends a metering reading and diagnostic to a centralized data communication company for their communications to the supplier. This allows them to both send and receive messages from their water utility. Smart meters come with an optional Smart Water Display, which shows customers the timing and consumption of water.



5 How many meters will be replaced?

The selected metering system will replace over 100 manually-read water meters throughout Allensworth CSD. Currently, meter readers must manually open every meter box to obtain a reading. Replacing these meters will allow for more accurate and efficient collection of water usage readings and improve safety conditions for staff.

6 When will the meters be replaced?

Water meter replacement will begin following the completion of the Study. Implementation funding will also need to be secured prior to the meter replacement. The project timeline is shown in the diagram to the right. It is important to note that the timeline is still tentative, and dates are subject to change depending on the community's available resources and funding opportunities.

7 How will my water bill be affected by the replacement?

The new meters will ensure that water usage is measured accurately throughout the community and that billing is fair. The installation of a solar array may also help reduce bills and energy costs for the district in the long run.

8 How can I use water more efficiently?

There are several ways to make your home more water efficient, including installing low-flow bathroom fixtures, reducing irrigation during wetter seasons, and promptly identifying and repairing leaks.

For more tips on how to use water more efficiently, please visit the Environmental Protection Agency's website at:

<https://www.epa.gov/watersense>

PROJECT TIMELINE



FAQ