

Lake Thunderbird

Critical Need Water Supply Project



Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District

Norman Water Forum

February 18, 2010

Meeting Agenda

- Project Background and Need
- Project Description
- Environmental Assessment



Project Background

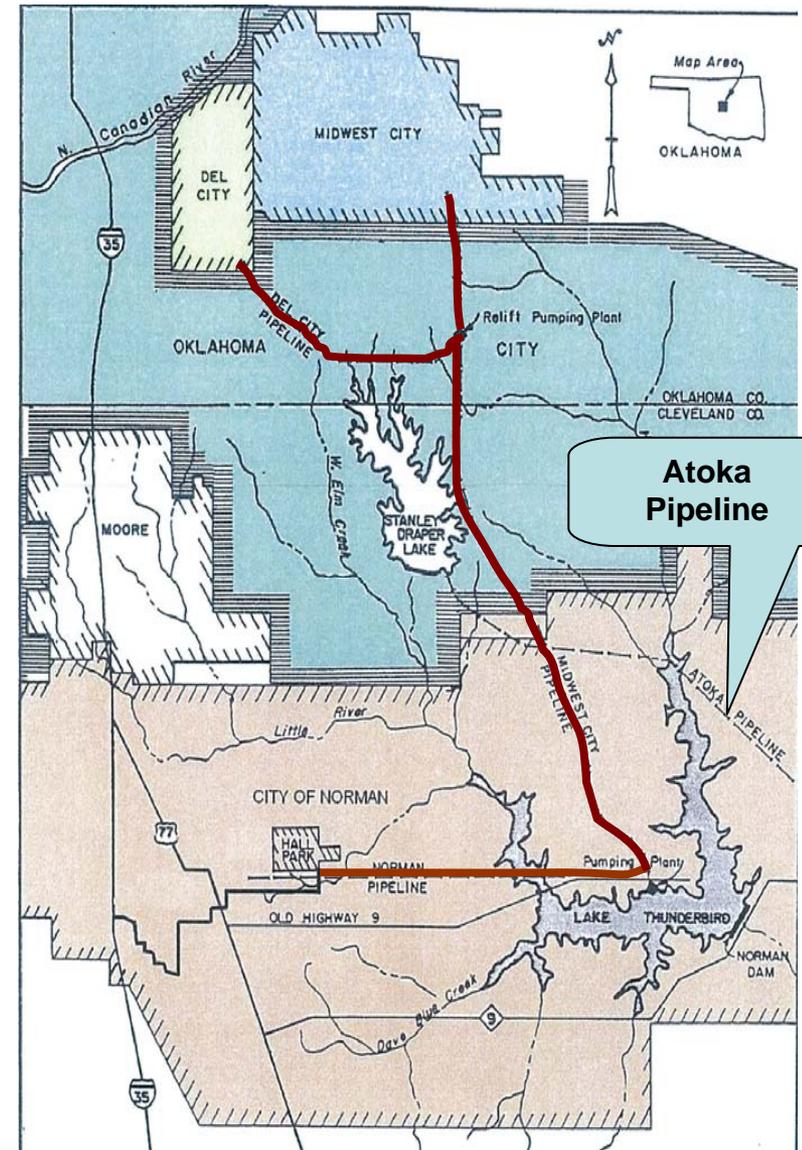
- Lake Thunderbird experienced a major drought in 2005-06 that resulted in the lowest lake level in more than 30-years.
- COMCD holds 21,600 acre-feet of water rights from the lake.
- Future drought of similar severity will prevent utilizing the full 21,600 acre-feet allocated yield from the lake.
- Augmentation is needed to maintain the original yield during ***Critical*** drought periods.

Project Need

- COMCD/Reclamation as well as member cities examined a number of alternative methods for additional sources of water.
- COMCD/Reclamation determined that augmentation from the existing Atoka Pipeline would be the best method to meet the objectives of this project.

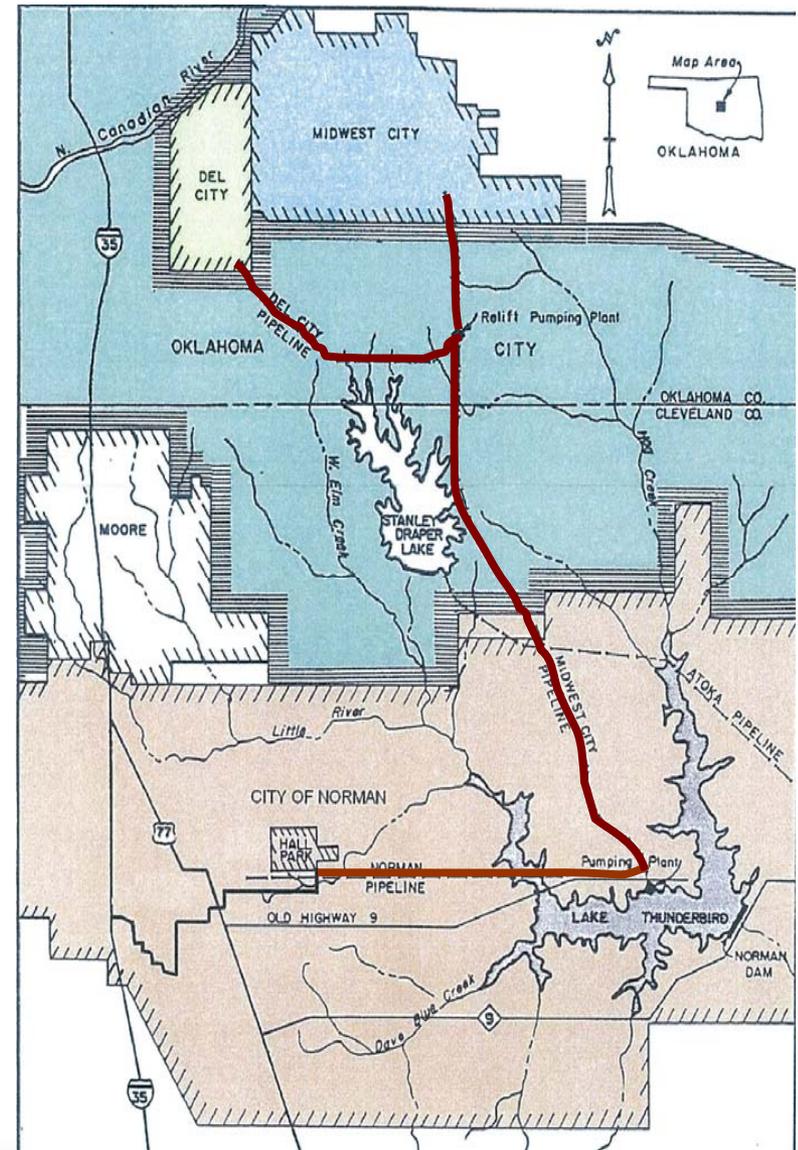
Project Background- Existing System

- Lake Thunderbird is a federally owned water storage facility.
- Completed in 1965.
- Includes the Lake, the Dam, the Pumping Station, and the raw water Pipelines to the cities of Norman, Midwest City and Del City.



Project Background- Existing System

- Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District (COMCD) operates the system under contract with Bureau of Reclamation.
- COMCD consists of member cities- Norman, Midwest City and Del City.



Existing System- Intended Use

- Primary intended use is to provide municipal and industrial water supply.
- Secondary intended uses include flood control, recreation and fish & wildlife enhancement.



Proposed Project Description

- The proposed project would withdraw raw water from the Atoka Pipeline during ***critical drought periods*** only.
- Water withdrawn from the Atoka Pipeline would be discharged to Lake Thunderbird for storage and distribution to member cities using existing pump station and conveyance pipelines.



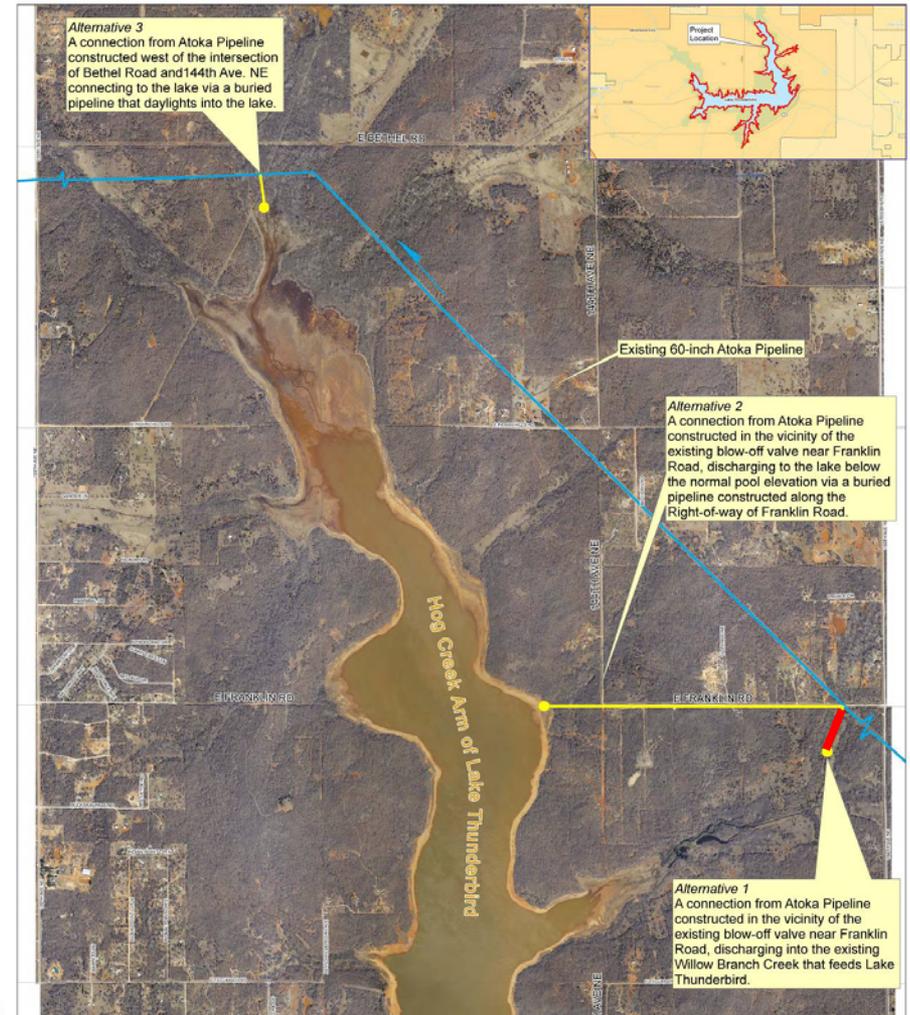
Alternatives Considered

- No Action
 - No change to the existing condition.



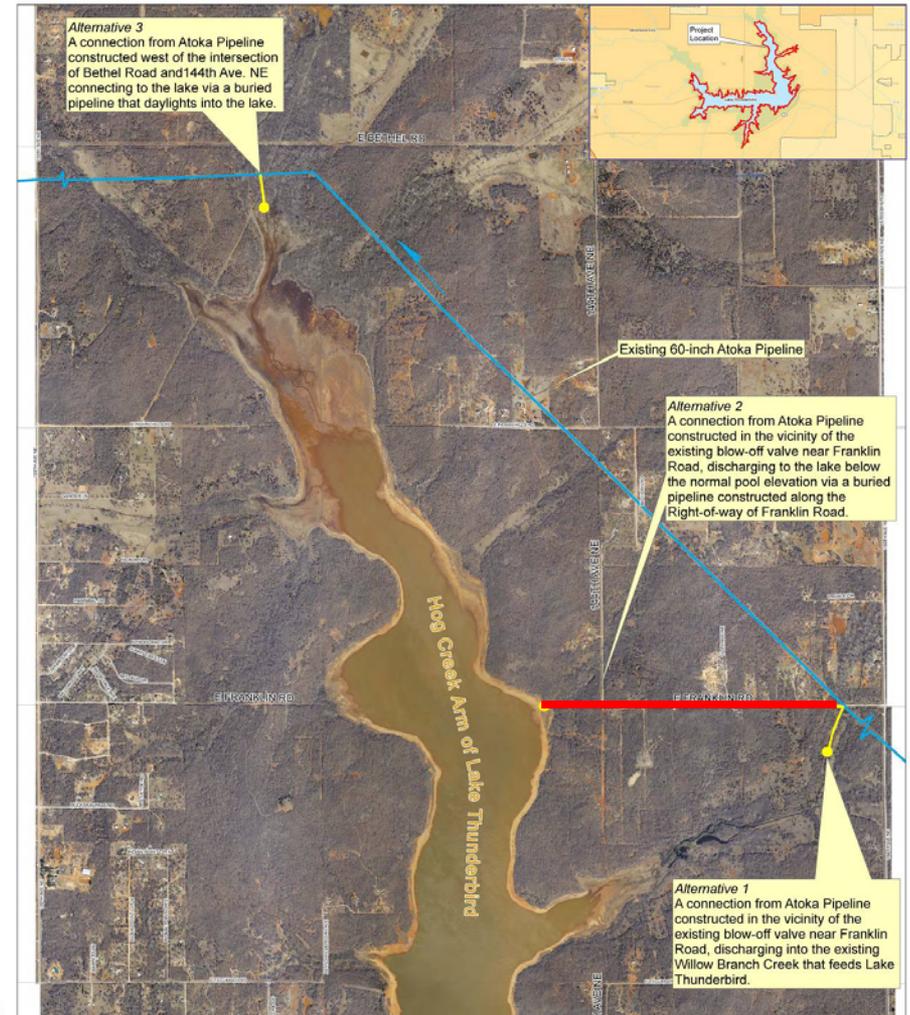
Alternatives Considered

Alternative 1: Constructing a buried pipeline connection from the Atoka Pipeline in the vicinity of the existing blow-off valve near Franklin Road, to a discharge point in the existing Willow Branch Creek.



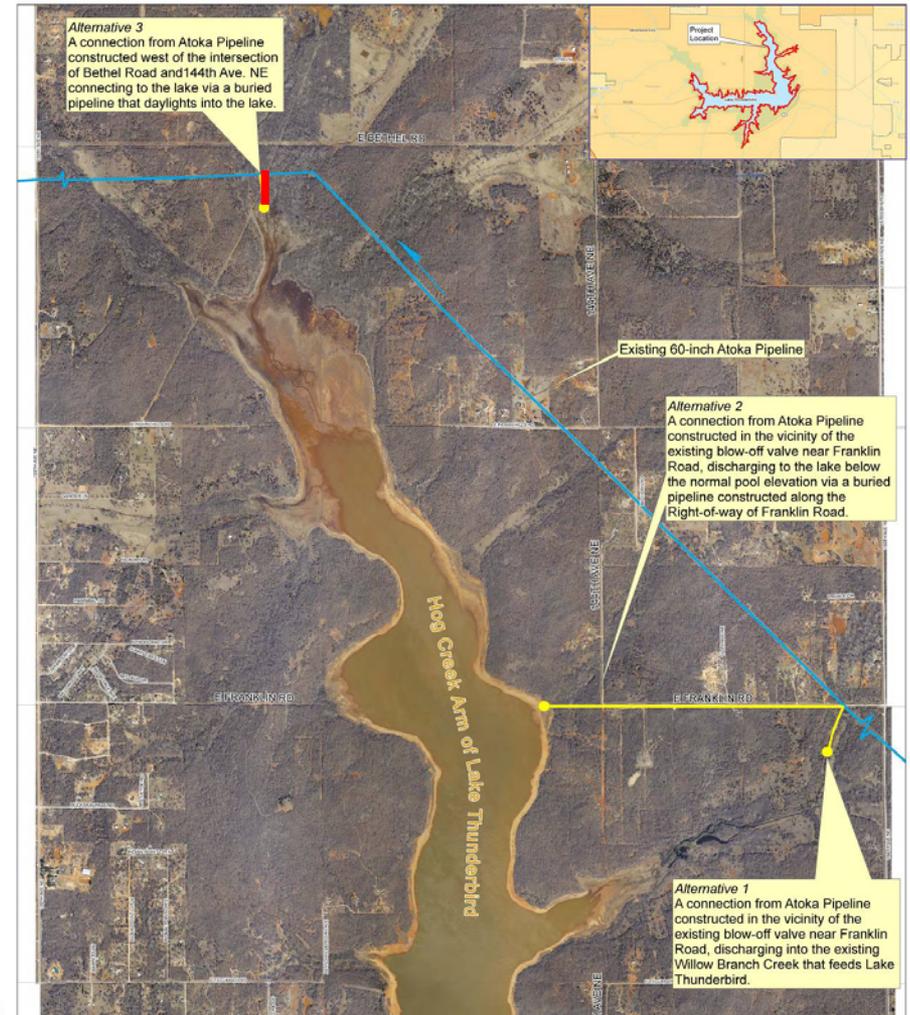
Alternatives Considered

Alternative 2: Constructing a buried pipeline along the right-of-way of Franklin Road, from the same point of connection to the Atoka Pipeline as Alternative 1, to a discharge point in Lake Thunderbird.



Alternatives Considered

Alternative 3: Constructing a buried pipeline connection from the Atoka Pipeline west of the intersection of Bethel Road and 144th Avenue NE, to a discharge point in Lake Thunderbird.



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- Because Lake Thunderbird is federally-owned, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires evaluation of potential environmental impacts of the proposed project.
- An Environmental Assessment (EA) will help to determine if there are significant impacts.
- Let's look at: EA Process; Public Participation Opportunities; What EA evaluates; EA Schedule.

EA PROCESS / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Scoping (September 1, 2009)

