

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
12621 E. 166th Street (Corner, Bloomfield & 166th), Cerritos, California**

1:00 P.M., MONDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2004

AGENDA

EACH ITEM ON THE AGENDA, NO MATTER HOW DESCRIBED, SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE ANY APPROPRIATE MOTION, WHETHER TO ADOPT A MINUTE MOTION, RESOLUTION, PAYMENT OF ANY BILL, APPROVAL OF ANY MATTER OR ACTION, OR ANY OTHER ACTION. ITEMS LISTED AS "FOR INFORMATION" MAY ALSO BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY "ACTION" TAKEN BY THE BOARD OR A COMMITTEE AT THE SAME MEETING.

- I. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
- II. PUBLIC COMMENT**
- III. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2004**
Staff Recommendation: Approve the minutes as submitted.
- IV. GROUNDWATER BASIN UPDATE**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- V. UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MWD WATER RECYCLING PROJECT**
Staff Recommendation: For information.
- VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Posted by Abigail C. Andom, Deputy Secretary, September 28, 2004

**MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2004
REGULAR MEETING OF THE WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

A regular meeting of the Water Resources Committee of the Board of Directors of the Water Replenishment District of Southern California was held on September 13, 2004 at 1:00 p.m., at the District Office, 12621 E. 166th Street, Cerritos, California. Chairperson Albert Robles called the meeting to order and presided thereover. Deputy Secretary Abigail C. Andom recorded the minutes.

I. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Attendees at the meeting were as follows:

Committee:	Directors Albert Robles and Robert W. Goldsworthy
Staff:	Robb Whitaker, Ted Johnson, Jason Weeks, Charlene King, Paul Fu

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

III. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 23, 2004

The minutes were approved as submitted.

IV. WEST COAST BASIN OPERATING PLAN PROPOSALS

Senior Engineer Jason Weeks stated request for proposals (RFP) for the West Coast Basin Operating Plan were sent out to 10 firms and CH2M-Hill and Bookman Edmonston were the only two that submitted proposals. He noted that some of the responses received from those that declined to submit proposals included lack of resources, bad timing, and lack of capabilities to undertake the study.

Mr. Weeks explained a proposal review committee met to discuss and rank the two proposals. The committee consisted of Neil Miller of the City of Manhattan Beach and WRD Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) member, Fernando Paludi of West Basin Municipal Water District, and District staff members Charlene King, Ted Johnson, and himself. He added that at the first proposal review committee meeting, it was determined that interviews with the two firms would be necessary and it would be more efficient to divide the project into two phases. The first phase would involve meetings and interviews with basin stakeholders, research and review of existing documents, identification of current basin operating objectives, formulation of alternative basin management scenarios and preliminary economic evaluations of various basin management scenarios. The second phase would involve a more detailed analysis, including modeling and an economic evaluation of those scenarios developed in the first phase that were determined to be feasible.

Mr. Weeks stated the proposal review committee met with the two firms on September 2, 2004. Mr. Miller was not present and Mr. Desi Alvarez attended the interviews in his place. The committee was unanimous in its choice of CH2M-Hill. Mr. Weeks explained that they were impressed with CH2M-Hill's decision making model and the thought that went into the development of potential management scenarios described in their proposal. He noted that their proposal identified more opportunities for conjunctive use. Mr. Weeks also noted that CH2M-Hill's bid was \$238,534 and Bookman Edmonston's bid was \$310,673.

Discussion followed. The Committee recommended the Board award a contract to CH2M-Hill to perform the West Coast Basin Operating Plan and directed staff to present this item at the October 6 Board meeting.

V. LEO J. VANDER LANS WATER TREATMENT FACILITY PROJECT UPDATE

Chief Hydrogeologist Ted Johnson provided the Committee with an update on the permit process for the Vander Lans Water Treatment Facility. He stated a meeting was held at Metropolitan Water District (MWD) regarding the issue of action levels on recycled water. Former Assemblymember Richard Katz of the California Water Resources Control Board was also in attendance at the meeting. Mr. Johnson stated discussion was held about the use of action levels as regulatory standards and that action levels should not be used as enforceable standards for recycled water projects. The Water Resources Control Board will issue a memorandum to the Regional Boards on "Implementation of Antidegradation Policy in Water Recycling Requirements" to build consistence on state policy regarding action levels and the antidegradation policy. The Regional Boards will be solicited for review and comment to the memo.

Discussion followed on strategies to expedite the permit process for the facility. General Manager Robb Whitaker stated staff was planning to meet with the LA County Sanitation Districts regarding this issue. The Committee asked the Board to be updated on the results of the meeting and the progress of the permit process.

Assistant Engineer Charlene King stated staff continues to work with PK Contractors and its subcontractors to close out any remaining construction-related issues. Ms. King noted that once the issues are resolved, the contractor will be formally released.

Ms. King added that Edison Company had a power shut-down last week which may have caused some communication problems and of which staff is taking care of.

Senior Engineer Paul Fu added that the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW) has requested that WRD measure the modified fouling index (MFI) of the product water from the Vander Lans

Facility to ensure that the water is low in particulate concentration and acceptable for injection into the barrier wells. Dr. Fu noted staff has conducted several MFI measurements of the plant's product water, and the initial results indicated that the MFI of the water is well within the limit set by the LACDPW.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business for the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35 P.M.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Director



MEMORANDUM

ITEM NO. IV.

Prepared by:	Ted Johnson
Reviewed by:	Robb Whitaker

DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2004

TO: WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: GROUNDWATER BASIN UPDATE

SUMMARY

Staff will present the committee an update on the replenishment activities and groundwater conditions in the Central and West Coast Basins during Water Year 2003/04, including:

Precipitation (at the Los Angeles Civic Center Station):

- 9.25 inches from October 1 through August 31 (66% of average over the same time period)

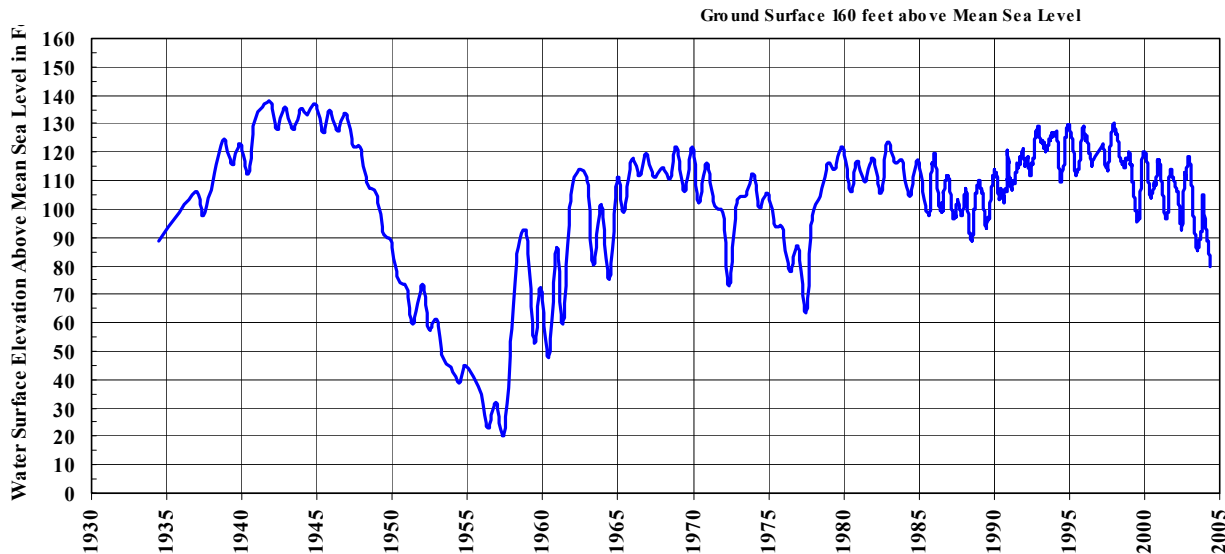
Pumping (through August):

- Central Basin.....179,951 af (5% higher than last year)
- West Coast Basin....43,408 af (8% lower than last year)
- Estimated Total Pumping for Water Year.....247,291 af (2.2% higher than last year)

Water Levels in Montebello Forebay Key Well 1601T:

- Groundwater elevation was measured at 81 ft above mean sea level on September 10, 2004. Water levels are currently dropping about 1 foot per week, and are at their lowest levels since 1977.

**Historical Water Levels
Montebello Forebay Key Well 1601T**



Montebello Forebay Spreading Grounds (through August):

- Imported Water - 27,520 af (out of current order for 27,600 af)
- Recycled Water - 40,000 af (estimated. Permit will allow up to 45,000 af this year)

Barrier Wells (through July):

- Imported - 16,919 af (17,836 af same period last year)
- Recycled - 3,026 af (5,224 af same period last year) WCBBP only.

Other Matters Regarding Recharge and the Groundwater Basins:

- The Groundwater Replenishment Coordination Group met on September 21, 2004. WRD put in an order for nearly 38,000 af of imported spreading water. MWD may be able to fill this order, but is currently unsure due to the unavailability of surplus Colorado River or State Project water. In addition, the Los Angeles County DPW will be performing maintenance activities in the stream channels until November 1, so imported water cannot be received until after that date. The price for imported spreading water will increase by \$5/af effective 1/1/2005.
- WRD was recently notified by the Sanitation Districts that our price for recycled water from the San Jose Creek Plant has increased from \$14.52/af to \$21.31/af (46.8% increase), which will impact our 2004/05 water costs by about \$250,000. They are authorized to make these changes once every three years under the terms of our 1968 Agreement. The reason for the large price change is due to significant increases in electrical power costs over the last three years.
- WRD has been issued low-flow penalties in June and July from MWD for \$78,000 because connection WB-28, which feeds imported water to the West Coast Barrier, had water flows drop below 10% of its overall capacity of 160 cfs. Staff has investigated the problem and is working with MWD, WBMWD, and LACDPW to solve it. The solution may be to replace the 160 cfs meter with a smaller meter.
- The U.S. Geological Survey, in conjunction with WRD, recently published a report titled "*Ground-Water Quality of Coastal Aquifer Systems in the West Coast Basin, Los Angeles County, California 1999-2002*"; USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2004-5067. The report describes our comprehensive investigations into the sources of groundwater in the Dominguez Gap Barrier and West Coast Basin Barrier areas. Native groundwater, barrier injection water, seawater, oil-field brines, or combinations of these water types are the various sources that can be found in different aquifers at different depths, and can lead to a better understanding of seawater intrusion pathways and barrier effectiveness. A free copy of the report can be downloaded from the USGS web site at <http://pubs.water.usgs.gov/sir2004-5067/>.

FISCAL IMPACT

For information.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.



MEMORANDUM

Prepared by: Ted Johnson

Reviewed by: Robb Whitaker

ITEM NO. V.

DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2004

TO: WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MWD WATER RECYCLING PROJECT

SUMMARY

WRD was recently made aware by the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (CSD) that the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD) is planning an approximate 4,300 acre feet per year (afy) water recycling project in the Whittier Narrows area, which is north of Central Basin in the adjacent the San Gabriel Basin. The source of the water would be the CSD's Whittier Narrows Recycled Water Treatment Plant (WNTP), which currently provides replenishment water to WRD.

Phase I of the project would use approximately 2,200 afy of recycled water for irrigation of the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area and Whittier Narrows Golf Course (both owned by the Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department), and for irrigation of school yards by the South El Monte Unified School District. A future phase II project could use another 2,100 afy for irrigation of the San Gabriel River Discovery Center, Caltrans Highway 60, Bicentennial Park, and an equestrian center.

Although Staff supports recycled water reuse projects in general, this particular one will have an impact on replenishment water availability and costs to WRD. The District has historically received approximately 10,000 afy from the WNTP for replenishment purposes at a cost of \$7/af under a 1975 Agreement with the CSD and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. If 4,300 afy of this water is no longer available to WRD due to its use by USGVMWD, the WRD will need to find replacement water to make up this loss. Alternative sources currently include increased stormwater capture through improved infrastructure, additional recycled water from the San Jose Creek Recycled Water Treatment Plant, and imported water. Any of these alternatives will increase the cost of replenishment water to WRD.

Staff has been investigating this matter and will present any updated information at the Committee meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT

Potential future increases in replenishment water costs depending on the source and cost to make up the lost WNTP water.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

For information.