

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

August 4, 1992

To: Board of Directors (Water Problems Committee--Action)
Board of Directors (Engineering and Operations Committee--Action)

From: General Manager

Subject: Authorization to Execute Agreements for Chino Basin Short-Term
Conjunctive-Use Project

Report

Chino Basin Watermaster (Watermaster) has proposed a short-term conjunctive use arrangement whereby Metropolitan could store and subsequently extract up to 5,000 acre-feet of water from the Chino Groundwater Basin. Metropolitan would deliver imported water to local entities in exchange for equal amounts of Chino Basin groundwater. Metropolitan would store its acquired groundwater in the existing Trust Storage Account and could pump that water at specified rates into its pipelines within a two year period. At any time, Metropolitan may exercise its existing right of retaining groundwater in its Trust Storage Account or transferring that water to its Cyclic Storage Account.

In order to implement this arrangement, Metropolitan would have to execute agreements with the Watermaster, those local purveyors which would exchange groundwater, and the Chino Basin Municipal Water District. An additional agreement would be required to have a local entity provide pumping services using existing wells to deliver Metropolitan's groundwater into the Upper Feeder. Operation costs, which are conservatively estimated to not exceed \$400,000, would be financed using available Operation and Maintenance funds for fiscal year 1992-93 and proposed funds in future fiscal year budgets. Facility modifications to connect wells to the Upper Feeder are expected to cost less than \$300,000 and would be financed using available fiscal year 1992-93 funds in Appropriation No. 399.

This short-term project would help Metropolitan store State Water Project water for use during next year's projected shortage condition.

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Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) will be met by the Chino Basin Municipal Water District as the Lead Agency, and Metropolitan will be a Responsible Agency. Metropolitan would not enter into any agreement until CEQA compliance is complete.

Board Committee Assignments

This letter is referred to:

The Engineering and Operations Committee because of its responsibilities related to providing storage, distribution, and connections for the delivery of water pursuant to Administrative Code Sections 2431 (b), (c) and (d).

The Water Problems Committee because of its responsibilities related to importation, exchange, and underground storage of water pursuant to Administrative Code Sections 2481 (a), (c), (d), and (i).

Recommendation

WATER PROBLEMS AND ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEES FOR ACTION.

That the General Manager be authorized to enter into agreements to implement a Chino Basin short-term conjunctive-use project substantially on the terms outlined in this letter subject to approval as to form by the General Counsel.


Carl Boronkay

KMK:as