



MWD

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

8-10

February 24, 1993

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

From: General Manager

Subject: 1993 Semitropic/Metropolitan Storage/Exchange Program

Report

At your January 12, 1993 meeting, your Board authorized the General Manager to expend up to \$2,400,000 to store up to 30,000 acre-feet (AF) of Metropolitan's State Water Project (SWP) 1992 carryover water in the groundwater basin underlying the Semitropic Water Storage District (Semitropic). Attached is the Board letter, dated December 18, 1992, that describes that action and the Semitropic/Metropolitan Storage and Exchange Program (Program) in detail.

Improved hydrologic conditions in Northern California have resulted in the Department of Water Resources (DWR) estimating that San Luis Reservoir will fill by March 5, 1993. This unanticipated event may result in Metropolitan losing a portion of 1992 carryover water. DWR has informed the SWP contractors that, contingent upon U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's approval to store SWP water in the federal share of San Luis Reservoir, DWR will continue to allow SWP contractors to take delivery of 1992 carryover water through April 20, 1993. After that date, any carryover water remaining in San Luis Reservoir would revert back to the SWP. This water may be reallocated to all SWP contractors as 1993 SWP entitlement water or put to other SWP purposes.

Based on projected demands, Metropolitan will not be able to accept delivery of more than 120,000 AF of its 191,000 AF of 1992 carryover water in our service area by April 20, 1993. This leaves 71,000 AF of Metropolitan's carryover water which cannot be utilized in our service area in 1993. Semitropic has indicated the ability to store 50,000 AF of this water in the Program before the above deadline. To most effectively use this carryover water, it is proposed that your Board approve additional funds to store up to 50,000 AF of water in the Program. Storing water in the Program will not impact the quantity of water available for storage programs in Metropolitan's service area as this carryover water would otherwise not be available to Metropolitan and sufficient supplies of 1993 SWP entitlement water are available.

Increasing storage in the Program from 30,000 AF to 50,000 AF will increase Program expenditures from \$2.4 million to \$4.0 million (50,000 AF x \$80). This exceeds the \$800,000 in the current Fiscal Year budget for exchanges and transfers. However, sufficient monies are available within the Annual Budget Appropriation.

To deliver this water to Semitropic, a new delivery point on the California Aqueduct is required. At the time of this letter, DWR has given Metropolitan and Semitropic a verbal commitment for a new delivery point. Formal approval will be necessary before any carryover water can be delivered from the Program.

The Negative Declaration reviewed and considered by your Board at its January 12, 1993, meeting considered storing up to 100,000 AF in the Program. Thus, no further work under the California Environmental Quality Act is necessary to increase storage in the program to 50,000 AF.

Board Committee Assignments

This letter is referred for action to:

The Engineering and Operations Committee because of its authority to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to delivery and storage of water pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2481(c);

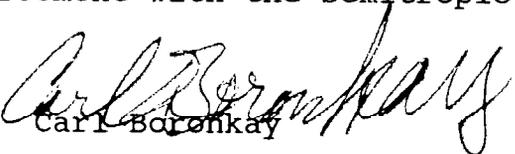
The Finance and Insurance Committee because of its authority to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to disposition of funds pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2441(c); and

The Water Problems Committee because of its authority to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to policies, sources, and means of importing water required by Metropolitan, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2481(a).

Recommendation

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS, FINANCE AND INSURANCE, AND WATER PROBLEMS COMMITTEES FOR ACTION.

It is recommended that your Board authorize the General Manager to expend an additional \$1.6 million, for a total of \$4 million, to store up to 50,000 acre-feet of 1992 carryover water per the terms of the existing agreement with the Semitropic Water Storage District.


Carl Boronkay