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METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

8-13

August 11, 1993

To: (Engineering and Operations Comm.--Action)
Board of Directors (Finance Insurance Committee--Action)

From: General Manager

Subject: Appropriation Number 666 for \$500,000 to Finance Costs of Pilot-Filter Tests and all Costs in Advance of Award of a Contract to Replace Skinner Filtration Plant Filter Media.

Report

Modules 1 through 4 of the Skinner Filtration Plant have a total of 72 filters. The media in these filters, consisting of sand, anthracite and gravel, has been in place since construction of the modules between 1972 and 1984. The filter media has become non-uniform and staff has encountered significant operating and maintenance problems over the past two years.

The primary O&M problem has been filter media disruption including mounding of the gravel base and the loss of sand and anthracite from the filters. Eventually, this situation could significantly impact the performance of the filters. The availability of modules 5 and 6 does provide some flexibility to switch to other filters.

A panel of experts invited to study the situation has recommended that, prior to replacement of the filter media, the District conduct tests with a pilot filter and identify the specific reasons for media disruption and determine the proper media mix. A pilot filter has been constructed and tests are projected to start in the near future.

Following completion of the tests, and barring any findings that the filter underdrain system needs to be redesigned, the filter backwash procedures would be modified and specifications would be prepared for the filter media replacement work. Overall, media in 69 filters will be replaced at an estimated total cost of about \$5,457,000, including the pilot work. This letter requests that \$500,000 be approved to fund the pilot work and all other work leading to the award of a contract for media replacement. If underdrain system modifications are deemed necessary, the Board will be apprised of that in detail immediately after the tests.

The proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act because it involves the operation and maintenance of an existing facility.

Board Committee Assignments

This letter is referred for action to:

The Engineering and Operations Committee because of its jurisdiction over the initiation, scheduling and performance of construction programs, pursuant to Administration Code Section 2431(b); and

The Finance and Insurance Committee because of its jurisdiction over appropriations, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2441(d).

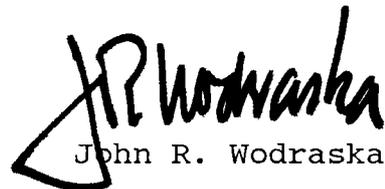
Recommendation

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE FOR ACTION

It is recommended that your Board authorize the General Manager to have all work performed, other than work to be performed under competitively bid contracts involving an expenditure over \$250,000 or more, for pilot-filter tests and all other work leading to a contract for replacement of filter media in 69 filters at the Skinner Filtration plant.

FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE FOR ACTION

It is recommended that your Board authorize Appropriation No. 666 in the amount of \$500,000 from the 1991 Revenue Bond Construction Fund to finance all estimated costs for pilot-filter tests and all other work leading to a contract for replacement of filter media in 69 filters at the Skinner Filtration Plant.


John R. Wodraska

SKM/mb

Attachment

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**(Program Number 5-0318-31)**

A breakdown of the costs for filter media replacements at the Skinner Filtration Plant is as follows:

	<u>Initial Funding</u>	<u>Total Project</u>
Labor and Additives	200,000	328,800
Materials and Supplies	70,000	1,050,000
Incidental Expenses	--	5,200
Equipment Use/Rental	20,000	31,500
Administrative Overhead	110,000	175,000
Contracts	50,000	3,150,000
Credits/Contingencies	50,000	716,500
Total	500,000	5,457,000

Source of Funds:

1991 Revenue Bond Construction Fund

Capital Program Fiscal Year 1993/94

Estimated Program Cost	5,457,000
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Projected Expenditure Fiscal Year 1993/94	4,670,000
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Class:

One -- Projects required for health and safety or governmental requirements.

Projected Expenditure of Funds:

Through Fiscal Year 1992/93	59,000
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Through Fiscal Year 1993/94	4,729,000
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Project Benefit:

Ensure adequate quality water from Modules 1 through 4 of the Skinner Filtration Plant.