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METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Daren E. Duff
Executive Secretary

January 28, 1994

To: Board of Directors (Water Problems Committee--Information)
From: General Manager
Subject: Chino Basin Conjunctive-Use Demonstration Project Status

Report

In March 1993, your Board authorized an increase in appropriation for planning efforts to develop a 50,000 acre-foot conjunctive-use storage agreement in the Chino Basin. Staff has made significant progress in development of that project as described in the following paragraphs.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

An MOU was executed with the basin interests documenting consensus on project features and principles that guide project planning.

Pilot Program

In 1993, Metropolitan made operational a Short-Term Conjunctive-Use Project that stored 4,800 acre-feet of imported water and that, for the first time ever, delivered stored groundwater to Metropolitan's distribution system. This effort served as a test of project institutional and operational procedures. Additionally, it resulted in viable storage of carryover water in Southern California for use during shortages. Construction costs for the capital improvements for this pilot project (about \$500,000) were allocated from the study appropriation.

Facility Planning

Staff, with support from its consultants, has been evaluating available options for placing imported water into groundwater storage and extraction of water from the Chino Basin for placement into Metropolitan's distribution system. More specifically:

- About 40 candidate spreading basins in the area have been examined and a final array of six basin areas are being considered.

- Two test injection wells have been constructed to evaluate the potential for development of shallow, unsaturated zone injection wells.
- Field investigations (which include trenching, percolation pit testing, and deep soil borings) to determine percolation capacities of spreading basins and aquifer characteristics in the project area are proceeding.
- Facility planning for the distribution piping, deep injection wells and extraction wells is ongoing.

Increased costs for unforeseen requirements related to field investigations and facility planning, combined with the costs related to the Short-Term Project, will require that your Board consider an increase in funds appropriation for facility planning efforts at its March 1994 meeting.

Agency Coordination

In addition to discussions with Watermaster and our member agencies overlying the Chino Basin, Staff has met with the City of Rancho Cucamonga, the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, the Chino Basin Water Conservation District, and the California State Department of Health Services regarding their interests in the project. Staff also appeared before the Regional Water Quality Control Board to address water quality protection measures. The process of developing necessary project agreements has begun. Staff is also coordinating alternative proposals suggested by basin interests that are comparable to arrangements negotiated with the Semitropic Water Storage District.

Environmental Compliance

A Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report was issued in January 1994 and a public hearing was scheduled for early February. Field investigations necessary to develop the environmental evaluations have been underway since early 1993. Final plan selection is expected this calendar year (a project schedule is attached for your information).

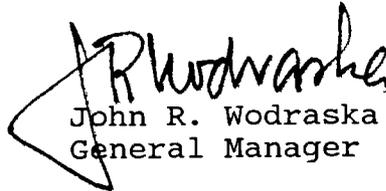
Board Committee Assignment

This letter was referred to the Water Problems Committee for information because of its responsibilities related to importation, exchange, and underground storage

of water pursuant to Administrative Code Sections 2481 (c) and (d).

Recommendation

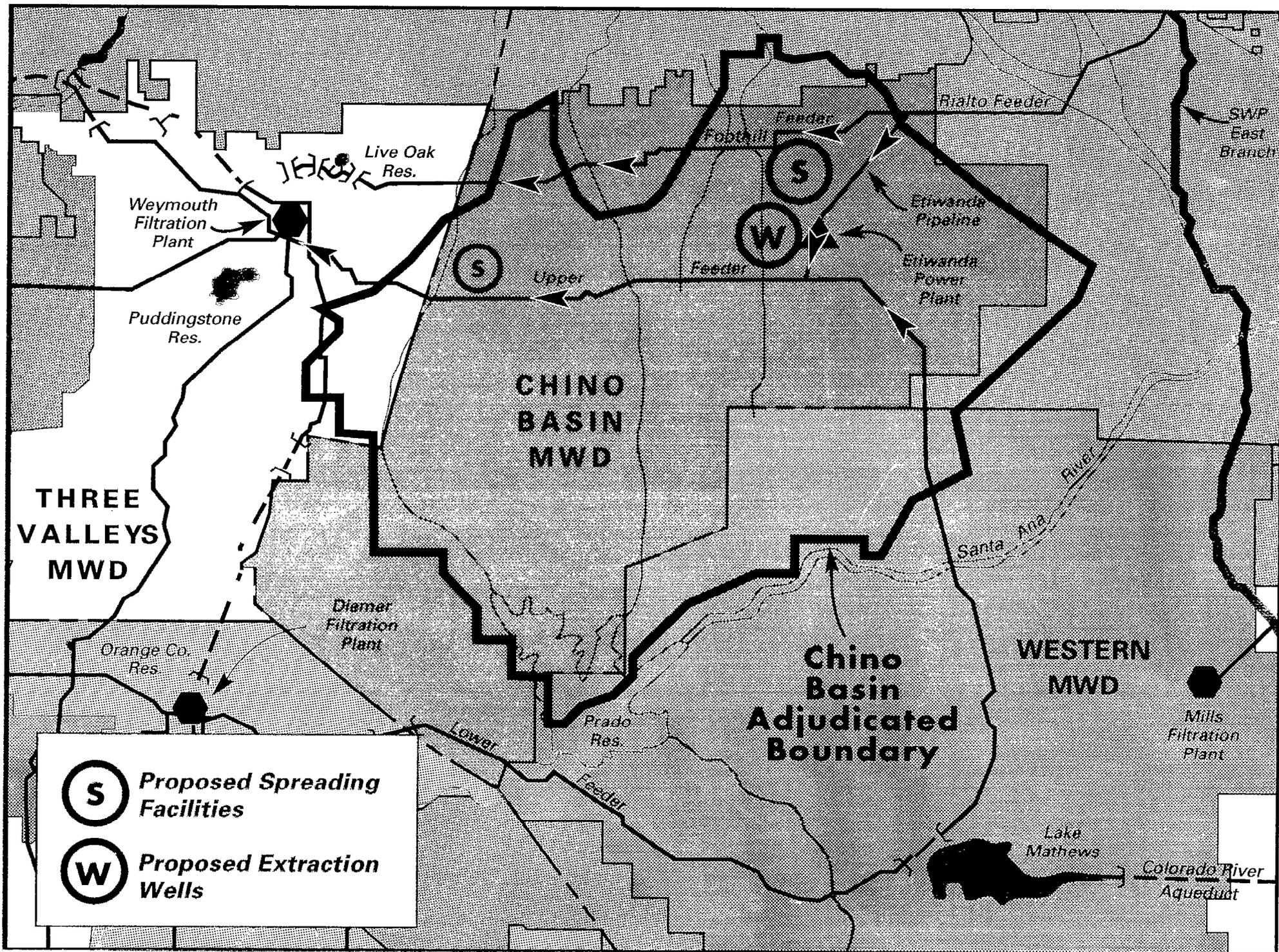
For information only.


John R. Wodraska
General Manager

KMK:hah

Attachment

CHINO BASIN CONJUNCTIVE-USE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT



CHINO BASIN CONJUNCTIVE-USE DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

