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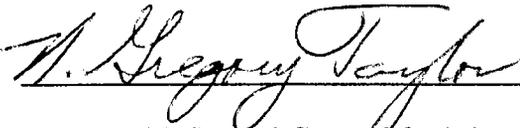
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

7-5

April 24, 1998

Office of the General Counsel

To: Board of Directors (Legal and Claims Committee--Action)
(Organization and Personnel Committee--Action)

From: General Counsel 

Subject: Authority to Extend the Term of Agreements with Special Counsel for Inland Feeder Project Eminent Domain Litigation.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board authorize the General Counsel to amend the contracts with five law firms identified in this letter to extend the time period to represent Metropolitan in eminent domain and related litigation for the Inland Feeder Project for the duration of each assignment or litigation and future Inland Feeder litigation assigned on or before December 31, 1999.

DETAILED REPORT

At its meetings of September 21, 1993 and January 9, 1994, your Board approved the retaining of nine law firms to represent Metropolitan in connection with eminent domain and related litigation for the Inland Feeder Project for a term of four years. Five of those firms represent Metropolitan in litigation arising out of the Inland Feeder Project but their contracts have or will shortly expire. They are:

Asaro & Keagy, San Diego
Endeman, Lincoln & Turek, San Diego
Ramsey and Price, Los Angeles
Singer & Silvergleid, Riverside
Cox, Castle & Nicholson, Los Angeles

Combined, these firms represent Metropolitan on sixteen active eminent domain actions which are either set for trial or are expected to face trials in 1998 or 1999. Therefore, it is necessary to extend the term of the existing contracts. The dollar amounts and billing rates will not change. Further, Metropolitan is continuing with its Inland Feeder acquisition efforts regarding over a dozen rights of way and, if voluntary acquisition is unsuccessful, there may be more eminent domain actions assigned to these firms in the future. Therefore, the General Counsel recommends that your Board extend the term provision for each of these firms for the duration of each current litigation or assignment and any future Inland Feeder litigation assigned on or before December 31, 1999.

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