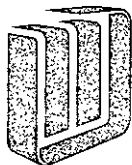


FILED by order
of the Board of Directors of
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California
at its meeting held MAR 10 1992

Karen E. Duff
Executive Secretary



MWD

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

February 25, 1992

To: Board of Directors (Water Problems Committee--Information)
(Legal & Claims Committee--Information)

From: General Manager and General Counsel

Subject: San Gabriel Basin Groundwater Storage Program

Report

The expansion of conjunctive use in the Main San Gabriel Basin has been cooperatively studied by Metropolitan, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (USGVMWD), Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD), San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, and the Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster for the past five years. In concept, the program would develop a major new regional storage facility for the conjunctive use of the area's local resources and imported water supplies. The program would be structured so that it does not interfere with local use of the Basin and would be consistent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Superfund Basin cleanup goals.

EPA is preparing the Baldwin Park Operable Unit Feasibility Study (OUFS) to provide detailed analysis of viable remedial alternatives for contamination problems in the Baldwin Park area of the basin. EPA has expressed a willingness to include conjunctive use as one of the alternatives. For the conjunctive-use alternative, Metropolitan would design, construct, and operate facilities that would treat and convey groundwater into its Middle Feeder. The other alternatives being studied would use other facilities to extract, treat, and distribute groundwater to local purveyors and require them to shut down existing wells. Inclusion of conjunctive use as one of the remedial alternatives in the OUFS raises the prospect of substantial funding under EPA's Superfund Program.

Implementation of a conjunctive-use project will involve a water storage/extraction agreement with the nine person Watermaster appointed under 1973 water rights judgment in Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District v. City of Alhambra, et al. The judgement enjoins the parties from storing water in the basin without an agreement with the

Watermaster or order of the court. Metropolitan is a party to the judgment and currently has two contracts with the Watermaster to store up to 167,000 acre-feet of imported water for the limited purpose of meeting replenishment obligations of USGVMWD and TVMWD.

Metropolitan initiated discussions with the Watermaster and the municipal water districts in the basin last year to draft an outline of principles for the storage/extraction agreement. At the request of Metropolitan and others, the Watermaster recently deferred adoption of revised draft principles in order to continue efforts by Metropolitan and the municipal water districts to further develop the revised draft outline.

Discussions have accordingly resumed to reach a mutually acceptable set of principles for addressing such items as storage criteria and accounting; extraction regulations; relationship to determination of annual operating safe yield; and the schedule, timing, and locations for spreading and extraction of water.

Board Committee Assignments

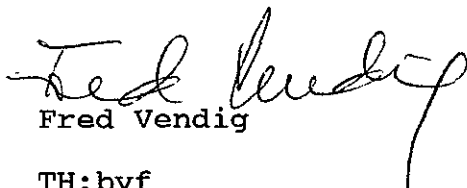
This letter was referred for information to:

The Water Problems Committee pursuant to Sections 2481(d) and (i) of Metropolitan's Administrative Code granting it authority regarding policies dealing with the sale and delivery of water for various uses, and underground storage of water and the use thereof.

The Legal and Claims Committee pursuant to Section 2461(a) of Metropolitan's Administrative Code granting it responsibility regarding litigation brought by or against the District.

Recommendation

For information only.


Fred Vendig


for Carl Boronkay

TH:bvf