

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

October 14, 1992

To: Board of Directors (Special Committee on Legislation--Action)  
 (Executive Committee--Action)  
 (Water Problems--Action)

From: General Manager

Subject: Proposed Legislation to Expand Metropolitan's Purposes and Powers

### Report

At the meeting of the Special Committee on Legislation on September 22, 1992, staff was requested to provide alternative language that would permit Metropolitan to serve water from reclamation projects for agricultural purposes; or that would permit Metropolitan to serve any water for agricultural purposes. It was specifically pointed out that such legislation need not permit all beneficial purposes to be served. Finally, it was suggested that the proposed amendments accomplish their objective in a manner that would not require amendment of the Metropolitan Water District Act ("Act"). Obviously, if the Board were minded to amend the Act, such amendment would be similar to the amendment proposed in AB 573 at the last legislative session.

The attached alternatives, which are proposed as amendments to existing provisions of the Water Code, respond to the request. Upon selection of the preferred alternative, staff would seek an author to introduce appropriate legislation in 1993.

The action recommended in this letter is exempt from CEQA because it can have no environmental effect.

### Board Committee Assignments

This letter is referred for action to:

The Special Committee on Legislation because of its responsibility to review staff's recommendations for positions on legislation, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2581(b);

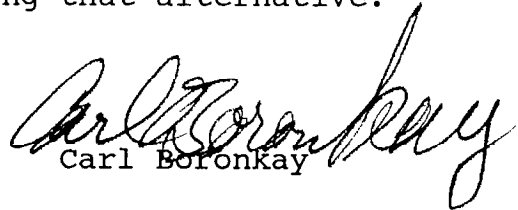
The Executive Committee because of its responsibility to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to legislation sponsored by Metropolitan or in any way affecting Metropolitan, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2417(a); and

The Water Problems Committee because of its responsibility to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to policies regarding the sale and delivery of water for various uses, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2481(d).

Recommendation

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION, EXECUTIVE AND WATER PROBLEMS COMMITTEES FOR ACTION.**

If the Board wishes to clarify authority to provide water for agricultural purposes under all circumstances, it may wish to select from the alternatives attached to this letter and authorize the General Manager to seek the introduction and passage of legislation incorporating that alternative.

  
Carl Boronkay

FV:db/gld  
aglegis

Attachments

ATTACHMENT A

Alternative 1

AMENDMENT OF WATER CODE SECTION 461 TO AUTHORIZE  
THE SALE OF RECLAIMED WATER FOR MUNICIPAL AND  
INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL USES

**Section 461. Legislative declaration**

It is hereby declared that the primary interest of the people of the state in the conservation of all available water resources requires the maximum reuse of waste water in the satisfaction of requirements for beneficial uses of water. In order to promote that primary interest, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, any water supplier identified in Section 1009 is authorized to acquire and serve reclaimed waste water for any purpose, including municipal, industrial, domestic and irrigation uses, provided the water meets all applicable health and safety requirements for the use or uses to be served.

Alternative 2

AMEND WATER CODE SECTION 106 TO AUTHORIZE  
WATER SUPPLIERS TO SERVE WATER FOR MUNICIPAL  
AND INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL USES

**Section 106. Use for domestic purposes and for irrigation**

It is hereby declared to be the established policy of this State that the use of water for domestic purposes is the highest use of water and that the next highest use is for irrigation. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any supplier of water identified in Section 1009 is authorized to provide water service for municipal, industrial, domestic and irrigation purposes.