

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

October 27, 1992

To: Board of Directors (Engineering & Operations Committee--Information)
From: General Manager
Subject: Progress Report on the West Valley Project

Report

The West Valley Project is needed by the year 2000 to meet regional water delivery and supply needs for southern Ventura and western Los Angeles counties. Based on Southern California Association of Governments estimates, population in this area is projected to increase from 1.3 million in 1992 to 2.2 million in 2030. Demands are expected to increase from 300,000 acre-feet per year to 500,000 acre-feet per year over the same time period. Existing pipelines in this area will not have sufficient capacity to meet future demands. It is estimated that additional conveyance capacity into this portion of the service area will be required by about the year 2000. There is also the potential to store water in the North Las Posas Groundwater Basin which underlies the Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas) service area. Conjunctive use of the North Las Posas Basin would enhance reliability of supplies during peak, drought, and emergency conditions.

The Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be released to the public in early November. Because Calleguas will also construct pipelines and groundwater injection/extraction facilities within its service area to fully utilize any new conveyance facility, the EIR will be a joint document with Calleguas. Costs for preparation of the EIR will be shared between Metropolitan and Calleguas. The total project described in the NOP includes:

- a) A new conveyance line constructed by Metropolitan to points near the Calleguas boundary;
- b) New local pipelines constructed by Calleguas;
- c) New groundwater injection/extraction wells in the North Las Posas Basin constructed by Calleguas; and

- d) Utilization of Metropolitan's Jensen Filtration Plant; or Calleguas may arrange with Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA) to treat water at CLWA's Rio Vista Treatment Plant.

Two general alignments are currently being evaluated to meet the needs of the member public agencies in Ventura and west Los Angeles counties; the San Fernando Valley alignment, and the Santa Clara River alignment. For the San Fernando Valley alignment, Metropolitan would construct a conveyance line through the west San Fernando Valley from Metropolitan's facilities to a point near the existing Santa Susana Tunnel. Calleguas would construct a second tunnel roughly parallel to the existing tunnel and build a pipeline through the Simi Valley and Moorpark to Lake Bard and the North Las Posas Basin. Metropolitan is also studying the feasibility of tunneling from Jensen to Simi Valley. Calleguas would construct groundwater injection/extraction facilities in the North Las Posas basin. Treatment would be provided by Metropolitan's Jensen Filtration Plant.

For the Santa Clara River alignment, Metropolitan would construct a pipeline along the Santa Clara River Valley from Santa Clarita to Calumet Canyon (about five miles southeast of Fillmore). From Calumet Canyon, Calleguas would construct a tunnel through the Oak Ridge Mountains to Happy Camp Canyon. From there Calleguas would build a pipeline to the North Las Posas Basin and Lake Bard. As with the previous alternative, Calleguas would build groundwater injection/extraction facilities in the North Las Posas Basin. Calleguas would arrange with CLWA to treat water at CLWA's Rio Vista Treatment Plant in Santa Clarita under this alternative.

Public scoping meetings have been scheduled in Newhall on November 12, 1992, and in Simi Valley on November 18, 1992 to give the public an opportunity to comment on the scope and content of the EIR.

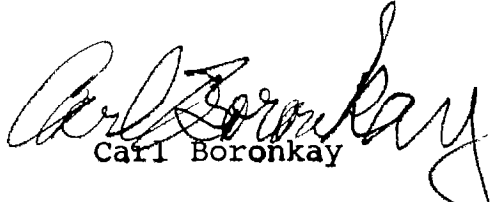
Board Committee Assignments

This letter was referred for information only to the Engineering and Operations Committee because of its interest in the conveyance and storage of water pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2431 (d).

Recommendation

For information only.

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Carl Boronkay