

**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

October 27, 1992

To: Board of Directors (Executive Committee--Action)
(Water Problems Committee--Information)

From: General Manager

Subject: Funding for the State Water Resources Control Board's Bay/Delta Hearing and Related Proceedings

Report

At its meeting of October 17, 1989, your Board approved the concept of establishing a general funding level of \$125,000 per year for Metropolitan's share of the State Water Contractors' (SWC) continued participation in the State Water Resources Control Board's Bay/Delta Hearing and related proceedings. It was indicated that staff would present specific funding requests to your Board each year for authorization.

On February 20, 1992, the SWC Board of Directors approved a collection for fiscal year 1992-93 from SWC member agencies of \$350,000 for SWC Bay/Delta Hearing and related proceedings. This funding is for the services of fishery and water resource consultants and also for a portion of legal services in representing the general interests of the SWC. Consistent with funding in previous years, Metropolitan would provide 25 percent of the \$350,000 total, or \$87,500.

The SWC Bay/Delta funding needs for 1992-93 were determined based on an estimate of remaining funds from last fiscal year's budget. Since this estimate turned out to be high by approximately \$100,000, the SWC may require additional funds later this fiscal year.

In addition to the contribution to the SWC Bay/Delta general fund, Metropolitan pays 70 percent of the legal fees of Best, Best and Krieger in representing the SWC interests in the Bay/Delta Hearing and related proceedings. At its meeting of October 13, 1992, your Board approved a contribution of \$250,000 to the SWC for payment of these legal fees. The SWC Bay/Delta general fund pays the remaining 30 percent. In addition to funding, Metropolitan staff continues to provide technical and legal support to the SWC in its Bay/Delta efforts.

Current funding needs for the SWC's Bay/Delta general fund have been included in Metropolitan's existing budget. The General Counsel concurs with the recommended funding. However, issues related to use of these funds are described in a letter to your Board dated October 20, 1992 from the General Manager and General Counsel. This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.

Board Committee Assignments

This letter was referred to:

The Executive Committee for action because of its authority to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to policies and procedures to be considered by your Board under Administrative Code Section 2417(e); and

The Water Problems Committee for information because of its authority to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to policies, sources, and means of importing water required by the District, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2481(a).

Recommendation

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR ACTION

It is recommended that your Board approve a contribution of \$87,500 to the State Water Contractors' Bay/Delta general fund for continued participation in the State Water Resources Control Board's Bay/Delta Hearing and related proceedings for fiscal year 1992-93.


Carl Boronkay

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