

MAY 10 1994



MWD

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

James E. Wolf
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

April 18, 1994

To: Board of Directors (Committee on Legislation--Information)
(Special Committee on Water Quality and
Environmental Compliance--Information)

From: General Manager

Subject: Safe Drinking Water Act Reauthorization Update

Report

Progress towards Reauthorization of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) in Congress and Metropolitan's role in the Reauthorization has been significant. The recent introduction of S. 1920 (Domenici, Boren, and Hatfield) has created extensive discussion on the SDWA in the Senate. Currently another SDWA bill, S. 1547 (Baucus) has passed out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on a 17-0 vote with extensive amendments, many of which are in S. 1920. Further, last week S. 1547 was replaced by S. 2019 as the new Baucus SDWA Reauthorization bill. The standard-setting considerations are still being discussed and the situation is very fluid now due to possible Senate floor action on April 21. The Board will be updated orally on the latest situation.

On the House of Representatives side, H.R. 3392 (Slattery and Bliley) currently has 164 cosponsors, 20 of which are from California. Staff expects only a few additional California sponsors due to pressure being exerted on California Democrats by Congressman Waxman, an opponent of H.R. 3392. However, meetings will continue with the local Southern California delegation to secure neutrality rather than outright opposition.

Water Quality Division staff are meeting with key participants in the drafting of amendments to assure legislation that conforms to Metropolitan's policy principle on the SDWA. One issue that Metropolitan has taken a lead role is the insertion of language in S. 2017 on development of a source-water protection program. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is also a strong supporter of this linkage between SDWA and Clean Water Act.

The Public Affairs Division has contacted cities urging them to pass a resolution in support of the concepts

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in H.R. 3392 and S. 1920. Many of the cities have contacted staff as they develop their resolution indicating that there is widespread interest and support in amending the SDWA.

Attached is a list of major meetings over the past month by staff to gain support for Metropolitan's SDWA policy principle.

Board Committee Assignments

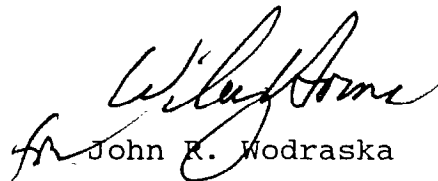
This letter is referred for information to:

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

The Special Committee on Water Quality and Environmental Compliance because of its authority regarding Federal water quality issues pursuant to Administrative Code 2551 (b) and (c).

Recommendation

For information only.


John R. Wodraska

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Attachment

Attachment

Date	Meeting/Letter	Discussion
3/17	Letter to MWD service area City Managers	Request for resolutions in support of H.R. 3392.S. 1920
3/21	Letter to All Member Agencies	Legislative alert and update on SDWA
3/21-23	Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies Legislative/ Regulatory Conference -- Washington D.C.	Discussions with EPA, Congressional Representatives and staffers, and other water utility managers on SDWA and CWA issues
3/22	Letters to Bill Leary, Council Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Peter Teague, Legislative Assistant to Senator Barbara Boxer and Kathy Lacey, Legislative Assistant to Senator Dianne Feinstein	Follow-up to March 10 and 11 meetings on important issues for California on SDWA Reauthorization
3/23-25	National Water Resources Association Legislative Conference -- Washington D.C.	Discussions with EPA, Congressional Representatives and staffers, and other water utility managers on SDWA and CWA issues
3/24-25	American Water Works Association Technical Advisory Group Quarterly Meeting -- Washington D.C.	Strategy on SDWA Reauthorization and grassroots efforts.
3/28	Congressman Lucille Roybal-Allard	Request for support of H.R. 3392
3/30	Congressman Matthew Martinez	Request for support of H.R. 3392
4/8	Mark Witlock, Executive Director of FAME	Request for support of H.R. 3392
4/13	Letters to Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer	Information and request for support for source water protection programs in SDWA
4/14	MWD DIRECT LINE ALERT to Member Agency Managers and fax memorandum to Member Agency Water Quality Managers	Alert to press release of Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council study entitled "Danger on Tap: Stop Polluted Runoff to Protect America's Drinking Water"
4/18	Various Meetings --Washington D.C.	Discussion with agricultural interest groups and others on source water protection language in SDWA
4/22	Congressmen Howard Berman and Xavier Becerra	Request for support of H.R. 3392