



**MWD**

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

8-3

June 16, 1998

**To:** Board of Directors (Engineering and Operations Committee--Action)

**From:** *FOR*: General Manager

**Submitted by:** Gary M. Snyder  
*for* Chief Engineer

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**Subject:** Delegate Authority to Award a Contract for Fabricated Steel Pipe for the Santa Ana River Crossing of the Inland Feeder Program.

**Reference:** Appropriation No. 15122

**RECOMMENDATION(S)**

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To provide fabricated steel pipe for the Santa Ana River Wash segment of the Inland Feeder Program, it is recommended that your Board delegate to the General Manager the authority to award a contract, in form approved by the General Counsel, for an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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The Santa Ana River Wash crossing is approximately 3,200 feet in length and lies within the contract limits of the Mentone Pipeline of the Inland Feeder Program. Construction of this segment has been carefully planned to reduce environmental impacts where possible and minimize construction time in the wash area. Procuring the necessary pipe prior to construction in late-1998 will expedite completion of construction through the wash and minimize the potential that changed environmental conditions may affect progress of construction.

Approval of this recommendation will authorize the General Manager to award a contract to the lowest bidder, in form approved by General Counsel, in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 for the necessary pipe and associated fittings in advance of a separate contract to install the pipe. The total estimated cost of the Inland Feeder Program remains unchanged at \$1,188,000,000.

**JUSTIFICATION**

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Procuring the necessary pipe for the Santa Ana River Wash segment prior to the start of construction will expedite the installation and assist in minimizing environmental impacts.

**ALTERNATIVE(S) TO PROPOSED ACTION**

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**Do not execute advance procurement of pipe**

Metropolitan could have the Mentone Pipeline contractor purchase the pipe. This would delay the completion of construction and have possible adverse environmental impacts.

**ACTIONS AND MILESTONES**

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- Open bids for pipe fabrication mid-July 1998
- Issue Notice-to-Proceed for Mentone Pipeline late-1998
- Complete construction of Santa Ana River Wash segment mid-1999

**CEQA COMPLIANCE / ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

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In February 1993, your Board certified the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Inland Feeder Program. A supplemental Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) evaluating the potential impacts from pipeline construction has been submitted to your Board for certification in July 1998. (See July Board, Item 7-3). Your Board is required to certify the SEIR prior to approving this requested action.

**MBE / WBE**

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The Business Outreach Office, Legal Department, and Engineering Division reviewed the scope of work associated with this solicitation. Subsequent to that review, it was determined that insufficient subcontractable work existed for the purpose of establishing MBE/WBE anticipated levels of participation. However, the specifications did include Metropolitan's policy statement encouraging the use of minority- and women-owned firms.

**DETAILED REPORT**

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The proposed Mentone Pipeline is an integral component of the Inland Feeder Project. It spans approximately 2.5 miles from the northern boundary of the City of Redlands to the southern boundary of the community of Mentone. The 12-foot-diameter pipeline is made up of two segments: the Santa Ana River Wash crossing to the north, and the segment along Opal Avenue in Mentone to the south.

The Santa Ana River Wash pipeline spans approximately 3,200 feet in length beginning near the boundary between the cities of Highland and Redlands. The pipeline passes through an environmentally sensitive area, where endangered species, namely the Santa Ana Woolly Star and the Slender Horned Spineflower, have been identified. Construction through this area has

been carefully planned to reduce environmental impacts wherever possible. Detailed investigations have identified strategies for completing construction in environmentally sensitive portions of the wash prior to the regeneration and growing season, thereby reducing environmental impacts. In addition, it is advantageous to expedite construction within the wash because the locations and population of sensitive species in these areas have been known to change over time. Existing sensitive areas in the wash that are to be avoided by the contractor have been identified and mapped and are included in the project specifications and drawings. Construction is scheduled to begin in late-1998 with priority given to the Santa Ana Wash area.

To expedite construction through the environmentally sensitive portions of the wash, it is necessary to procure the 3,200-linear feet of pipe and associated fittings in advance of awarding a contract for the Mentone Pipeline. The specifications for the fabrication of the pipe has been advertised and this letter requests a delegation of authority for the General Manager to award a contract to the lowest responsible bidder, in form approved by the General Counsel, in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000.

DB/mg.rev5  
(SantaAnaPipe)