

- **Board of Directors**
Engineering and Operations Committee

April 9, 2002 Board Meeting

8-9

Subject

Authorize payment of \$435,000 for AWWARF's Voluntary Research Subscription Program

Description

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) has participated in the American Water Works Association Research Foundation's (AWWARF's) Voluntary Research Subscription Program since 1986. During that time, the Board has authorized funding for Subscription Program in accordance with Metropolitan's level of participation in AWWARF. This letter is requesting board approval to continue Metropolitan's participation and funding for its fiscal year 2001/02 obligation by authorizing payment of \$435,000 to the AWWARF. Water System Operations will return to the Board for authorization to continue participation in this program as part of the proposed FY 2002/03 budget.

Metropolitan's contribution, along with contributions from other water utilities and consulting firms, will be used to fund necessary applied research projects in the drinking water field. Metropolitan's participation also enables its member agencies to obtain an approximately 60 percent discount in their contribution to the AWWARF program. Collectively, this saves the member agencies an estimated \$240,000 per year. Currently, 22 Metropolitan member agencies are subscribers to the AWWARF Research Subscription Program.

Attachment 1 presents background information about the program and its benefits to Metropolitan and our member agencies. Metropolitan currently has a total of 24 active programs totaling approximately \$4.0 million in grant money (**Attachment 2**).

Policy

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code § 11202: Payment of Dues

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code § 11203: Participation in Projects or Programs Serving District Purposes

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Staff Recommendation:

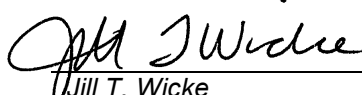

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment (Section 15378 (b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed action in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the proposed action is not subject to CEQA (Section 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The CEQA determination is: Determine that the proposed action is not subject to the provisions of CEQA per Sections 15378(b)(4) and 15061(b)(3) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Staff Recommendation

Adopt the CEQA determination and authorize payment of AWWARF's Subscription for FY 2001/02.

Fiscal Impact: \$435,000

 Jill T. Wicke Manager, Water System Operations	<hr/> 3/8/2002 Date
 Ronald R. Gastelum Chief Executive Officer	<hr/> 3/27/2002 Date

Attachment 1 – Detailed Report

Attachment 2 – Total Active AWWARF Grants Awarded to Metropolitan

BLA #1654

Detailed Report

AWWARF is a non-profit corporation established in 1967 to promote, coordinate, and finance applied research in the operations and management of public water supply systems. Currently, AWWARF has over 1,000 utility subscribers, 52 consulting firm subscribers and 20 manufacturers. Metropolitan has been a subscriber since the first year of the program.

Applied research topics funded by AWWARF address key problems identified by the water industry and provide essential information for impacting the development of drinking water regulations. This research is critical for the implementation of the "good science" requirement for new regulations contained in the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. Metropolitan and its member agencies have benefited from AWWARF's program in a number of areas, including the Information Collection Rule; the Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products (D/DBPs) Rule; the Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule; taste-and-odor-control strategies; and detection and treatment of microbial pathogens. Specifically, AWWARF has funded \$7.5 million on arsenic research, \$3.5 million for perchlorate, \$60.6 million on microbials and DBPs, \$3.5 million for reclamation and reuse projects, and \$32.3 million on *Cryptosporidium*. AWWARF also works with a number of agencies (e.g., Water Environment Research Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency) to provide co-funding for projects of mutual interest. Furthermore, Metropolitan's Water Quality Section has been awarded grant money from AWWARF to be distributed over the next few years (Attachment 2).

Utility contributions are based on \$1.85 per million gallons delivered per year, with credits given for water purchased from subscribing wholesalers and water sold wholesale. Therefore, Metropolitan covers approximately 60 percent of the AWWARF funding for our member agencies that are AWWARF's utility subscribers. Collectively, this saves Metropolitan's member agencies \$240,000 per year. Currently, 22 of Metropolitan's 26 member agencies are AWWARF subscribers.

**ACTIVE AWWARF GRANTS AWARDED TO METROPOLITAN
February-02**

Item No.	Title of Grant Project	Year of Award	*Amount of Award to MWD (\$)
1	Assessment of Molecular Epidemiology of Waterborne Cryptosporidium with Respect to Origin	1996	240,211
2	Distribution of Generated Taste and Odor Phenomena	1996	374,812
3	Case-Study:Disinfection/Disinfection By-Products Regulations	1996	150,000
4	Characterization of Polar Fraction of NOM w/Respect to DBP Form.	1997	250,000
5	Colonization of Biologically Active Filter Media w/ Pathogens	1997	47,500
6	Health Effects of Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	1997	10,000
7	Formation, Occurrence, Stability and Dominance of Haloacetic Acids and Trihalomethanes in Treated Drinking Water	1997	30,000
8	Filter Operational Effects on Pathogens Passage	1997	147,500
9	National Assessment of Perchlorate Contamination Occurrence	1998	158,809
10	Disinfection Efficiency & Dose Measurement for Medium Pressure & Pulsed UV Disinfection	1998	37,031
11	National Assessment of MTBE Occurrence in Drinking Water	1998	350,000
12	A Comparative Study of Non-Thermal Technologies for Salinity Removal	1998	63,442
13	Rapid Screening of Pathogens in Water	1998	103,900
14	Feasibility Study to Develop an Artificial Intelligence System for Optimization of WTP Ops	1998	73,000
15	Treatability of Perchlorate Containing Water by Reverse Osmosis	1998	70,000
16	Removal of Bromate & Perchlorate in Conven. Ozone/GAC System	1998	25,000
17	Early Warning Techniques and Communication Plans for Surface Water Taste-and-Odor Events	1999	299,971
18	Comparison of Cell Culture & Animal Infectivity for Detection of Cryptosporidium Parvum	1999	496,778
19	Removal of MTBE with Advanced Oxidation Processes	1999	100,000
20	Inactivation of Pathogens by Innovative UV Technologies	1999	200,001
21	Innovative UV Tech. to Oxidize Organic & Organoleptic Chemicals	1999	5,363
22	Factors Affecting the Formation of NDMA in Water and Occurrence	2000	75,000
23	Cryptosporidium Oocyst Repair Following UV Disinfection	2000	299,797
24	Real-Time On-Line Continuous Monitoring of Cryptosporidium Parvum in Drinking Water	2000	58,233
25	UV Disinfection for Large Treatment Plants	2001	39,981
26	Measurement of Ozone Inactivation of Cryptosporidium Parvum	2001	400,000
	TOTAL		4,106,329

*Amount managed by Metropolitan which includes payments for subcontractors as applicable.