

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

February 11, 2003 Board Meeting

8-4

Subject

Authorize payment of \$445,000 for American Water Works Association Research Foundation's Voluntary Research Subscription Program

Description

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California has participated in the American Water Works Association Research Foundation's Voluntary Research Subscription Program since 1986. During that time, the Board has authorized funding for the 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 FY 2002/03 obligation by authorizing payment of \$445,000 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 2003/04 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 16 active programs totaling approximately \$2,926,266 in grant money (see [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

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

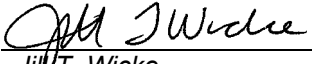
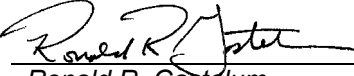
CEQA determination for Staff Recommendation:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves other government fiscal activities that do not involve any commitment to any specific project that 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 Section 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 2002/03.

 _____ Jill T. Wicke Manager, Water System Operations	1/14/2003 Date
 _____ Ronald R. Gastelum Chief Executive Officer	1/22/2003 Date

Attachment 1 – Detailed Report

Attachment 2 – Total Active AWWARF Grants Awarded to Metropolitan

BLA #2024

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.

**TOTAL ACTIVE AWWARF GRANTS AWARDED TO METROPOLITAN
Dec-02**

Item No.	Funding Agency	Title of Grant Project	Year of Award	*Amount of Award to MWD \$\$
1	AWWARF	Assessment of Molecular Epidemiology of Waterborne Cryptosporidium with Respect to Origin	1996	240,211
2	AWWARF	Case-Study: Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products Regulations	1996	150,000
3	AWWARF	Disinfection Efficiency & Dose Measurement for Medium Pressure & Pulsed UV Disinfection	1998	37,031
4	AWWARF	National Assessment of MTBE Occurrence in Drinking Water	1998	350,000
5	AWWARF	Rapid Screening of Pathogens in Water	1998	103,900
6	AWWARF	Treatability of Perchlorate Containing Water by Reverse Osmosis	1998	70,000
7	AWWARF	Early Warning Techniques and Communication Plans for Surface Water Taste-and-Odor Events	1999	299,971
8	AWWARF	Comparison of Cell Culture & Animal Infectivity for Detection of Cryptosporidium Parvum	1999	496,778
9	AWWARF	Removal of MTBE with Advanced Oxidation Processes	1999	100,000
10	AWWARF	Inactivation of Pathogens by Innovative UV Technologies	1999	200,001
11	AWWARF	Innovative UV Tech. to Oxidize Organic & Organoleptic Chemicals	1999	5,363
12	AWWARF	Factors Affecting the Formation of NDMA in Water and Occurrence	2000	75,000
13	AWWARF	Cryptosporidium Oocyst Repair Following UV Disinfection	2000	299,797
14	AWWARF	Real-Time On-Line Continuous Monitoring of Cryptosporidium Parvum in Drinking Water	2000	58,233
15	AWWARF	UV Disinfection for Large Treatment Plants	2001	39,981
16	AWWARF	Measurement of Ozone Inactivation of Cryptosporidium Parvum	2001	400,000
				\$2,926,266

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