

### • Water Resource Management October 2005 Activity Report

#### Summary

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The following is a summary of Water Resource Management Group key activities for the month of October 2005.

#### Detailed Report

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##### Planning

**Water Planning Practices** - On October 14, Metropolitan hosted a workshop for a delegation of four water management professionals from Iraq and a representative from the Army Corps of Engineers. The workshop was part of a 45-day “knowledge transfer” training program sponsored by the Army Corps of Engineers to introduce the Iraqi water managers with United States water planning practices. The workshop featured presentations on Integrated Resource Planning, system operations, salinity management planning and agriculture-to-urban transfers.

##### State Water Project

**2006 State Water Project Order** - In conformance with the State Water Project Contract, Metropolitan submitted an order for 2006 deliveries to the California Department of Water Resources. The order requested Metropolitan’s full Table A amount of 1.9 MAF, however, the allocated quantity of water available will depend on upcoming year’s hydrology.

Depending on water supply conditions, Metropolitan may exercise its right to recall from Desert Water Agency and the Coachella Valley Water District, up to 100 TAF of Table A water. Metropolitan had transferred this Table A amount to these agencies as a result of the Quantification Settlement Agreement. If Metropolitan recalls this water it would pay about \$40 million to cover actual SWP costs. If not recalled, Desert Water Agency and the Coachella Valley Water District would incur these costs

**Status of California Energy Commission Process** - Staff reviewed the *2005 Integrated Energy Policy Report* and submitted comments by the due date of October 14, 2005, highlighting that energy strategies and water conservation are important aspects in planning and managing water supply systems. Also, Metropolitan commented on the opportunity to work with the CEC in the following areas:

- Expand existing State Water Project comprehensive strategies such as capital improvements, efficiency upgrades, cost-effective water management programs, and effective Federal Energy Regulatory Commission re-licensing;
- Jointly research small-conduit energy recovery opportunities within Metropolitan's distribution system; and
- Jointly educate "sister" state agencies to recognize the embedded indirect energy savings in water conservation.

##### Conservation

**Water-free Urinals approved by Santa Monica** - In September, Santa Monica became the first city in California to change its building code to allow installation of water-free urinals, which can save up to 40,000 gallons of water each year. These fixtures continue to gain acceptance in the design and building industry, and help reduce water demand and wastewater treatment and disposal costs. Metropolitan provided a letter of support to include water-free urinals as part of Santa Monica’s water-use efficiency programs. Metropolitan has offered financial incentives under its conservation credits program for such fixtures since 1997.

**USBR Water Conservation Program Grants** - Metropolitan received two \$50,000 grants related to water conservation from the US Bureau of Reclamation. One grant will be used to help fund a two-year market analysis

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study for landscape irrigation, focusing on market research, consumer response, and key drivers for successful participation. Market research information developed from the study will be used to design cost-effective conservation programs. Another USBR funded project will help complete development of Web-based landscape irrigation efficiency training targeting residential and landscape professionals.

**California Energy Commission Waiver for High-Efficiency Clothes Washers** - The California Energy Commission recently petitioned the Department of Energy, requesting a waiver for California's water efficiency standards for residential High-Efficiency Clothes Washers. California is proposing to add phased manufacturing standards that incorporate water-use efficiency in residential high-efficiency clothes washers. Staff will continue to work with stakeholders, including the California Urban Water Conservation Council, to support CEC's waiver, which would allow state enforcement of new standards. Metropolitan is currently providing incentives for washers with a water factor of 6.0 or better (higher water efficient models).

**Proposition 50 High-Efficiency Clothes Washers Grant Program** - Metropolitan is finalizing a \$1.7 million grant funding agreement under Proposition 50 to incentivize replacement of clothes washers with more efficient models, which will start some time next year. In June, Metropolitan successfully concluded its \$2.5 million Proposition 13 high-efficiency clothes washer program, providing incentives for about 33,300 appliances. Metropolitan experienced robust public response to the grant program, which was completed in 14 months, rather than the projected three-years. Metropolitan is currently providing bridge funding between the two grant programs to support member agency efforts and sustain momentum until a new funding agreement is executed.

**California Friendly Landscape and Model Home Program** - On October 3, Eastern Municipal Water District hosted a meeting with the Riverside County Chapter of the Building Industry Association to discuss ongoing opportunities for Riverside County builders to participate in the California Friendly Program. The event was hosted by EMWD officials, Supervisor Marion Ashley, and attended by Building Industry Association representatives, leading builders, landscape architects and contractors. Representatives from KB Home and Shea Homes provided favorable testimonials on their experience as participants in the California Friendly Landscape pilot, encouraging other builders to sign up for the CF Model Home program. Staff delivered a presentation on available financial incentives under the CF Program including details for participation.

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