

- External Affairs June 2006 Activity Report

## Summary

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In June, the press office received about 20 news media calls and issued five press releases, including one issued jointly with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on agreement for a demonstration program to determine whether Lake Mead can be used as a long-term water management tool on the lower Colorado River; one on the agreement with AFSCME; and another on the 2006 Telly Awards *Straight from the Tap* earned for programs on the Bay-Delta and the Global Water Forum. Metropolitan-related stories appeared in the *Business Press* (museums at DVL), *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin* (water-wise gardens), *Los Angeles Times* (water rates), *North County Times* (Father's Day event at DVL), *Pasadena Star News* (City Makeover event), *Press Enterprise*, *San Diego Union Tribune* (conservation, All-American Canal, Carlsbad desalination plant), and *San Gabriel Valley Tribune* (water bond). The education unit conducted five inspection trips, one to the Colorado River, one of the State Water Project and the remaining to Diamond Valley Lake, reaching 200 community members, provided in-service training to 51 teachers and DVL field trips for 212 students. There were more than 21 presentations on various topics to the public or legislative offices by staff. The district's Web sites received 73,605 hits during the same time. The community outreach group had \$219,226 in accumulated special events and activities sponsorships for the month for the following organizations: Building Industry Association, City of Whittier, Claremont Wildlands Conservancy, CREEC/TreePeople, Friends of Pio Pico, Habitat Authority, Latino Initiatives for the Next Century-The East Los Angeles Community Union Education Foundation, Los Angeles Business Council, and VICA. Diamond Valley Lake celebrated its 150,000 visitor since its October 2003 opening: Bill Connelly of El Cajon.

## Attachments

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MWD State Legislative Matrix

## Detailed Report

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### Initiatives

#### California Friendly™

Through a partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council, Metropolitan staff is conducting a pilot program combining its California Friendly Home standards with existing national green building standards. Following a June 8 workshop held at Eastern Municipal Water District, five new homebuilders agreed to participate in the pilot Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Homes program. All homes will begin construction this summer.

On June 28, General Manager Jeff Kightlinger met with Jim Previti of the Empire Companies to discuss growth and development in the Inland Empire and with John Young of Young Homes for a briefing on Metropolitan's long-term conservation needs and future goals for the residential housing market. Mr. Young was encouraged to use his leadership as the Southern California President of the Building Industry Association to persuade more builders and land developers to participate in Metropolitan's California Friendly programs.

Advertising for conservation rebate programs continued through June. Ten-second television ads ran during Los Angeles and San Diego sports events including baseball and basketball games and during golf tournaments. Print ads ran in *Better Homes & Gardens*, *Sunset Magazine*, *Time*, *Newsweek* and *California Landscaping*.

Dudek and Associates prevailed in a search conducted for a firm to develop and implement the California Friendly Homes certification program and was awarded a contract in late June.

#### Business and Community Outreach

The Press Office secured a major Los Angeles Times news story offering overview of the water management investments Metropolitan and its member agencies have made to keep pace with the region's growth. Metropolitan's conservation efforts, particularly our California Friendly initiative, were featured in the article.

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The Business Outreach Program helped broker an agreement between Metropolitan and the U.S. Small Business Administration that will allow an exchange of resources, data, and programs that will help enhance opportunities for small businesses.

### Legislative Outreach

#### *Washington, D.C.*

The House of Representatives will attempt to finish all appropriations bills before the July 4 recess. Thus far six bills (including the Interior and the Energy and Water Appropriations) have been passed and sent to the Senate. It is anticipated that once funding allocations are issued, the Senate Appropriations subcommittees will begin to deliberate on the appropriations bills before them.

On May 11, the House Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill for FY 2007 was reported out which was \$546 million above the President's request but still \$172 million below FY 2006 level. The 10-year plan for CALFED calls for \$1.5 billion budget, of which 21% is federal funding. The federal participation averages out to be approximately \$31.5 million per year over ten years. In FY 06, the federal government funded CALFED at \$36.6 million. For FY 07, the President recommended \$38.6 million be included for CALFED programs. The House Energy and Water Appropriations bill for FY 07 contains \$40.1 million.

In the House Interior and Environment appropriations bill, the Bureau of Reclamation received an increase in funding over President's request but is still \$114 million below FY 2006 level. The bill does, however, include \$6 million to assess existing and future risks in the Bay-Delta.

Water Resources Development Act - The House bill, H.R. 2864, passed last July. Senate bill, S.728, is pending on Senate Calendar. Early this year 77 senators signed a letter to Majority Leader Bill Frist asking that S.728 be brought to floor for consideration. If a WRDA bill is brought up for consideration in the Senate, it won't be until after July 4 recess.

Legislation has been drafted and submitted to the Congressional Research Service for a summary to be reported to the Senate Energy Committee. Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-Ca) and Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska) should be introducing the legislation prior to the July recess. Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act - S. 2145 would cause severe problems for those who supply drinking water, by forcing water utilities/agencies to comply with drinking water standards being imposed by the Department of Homeland Security, while still complying with EPA. Senator Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) has co-sponsored an amendment with Senators George Voinovich (R-Ohio), Robert Bennet (R-Utah), John Warner (R-WV) and Mark Pryor (D-Ar) to strip out the onerous provisions.

#### *Sacramento*

AB 2397 by Assemblyman Ron Calderon (D-Montebello) was pulled from the June 21 agenda of the Senate Local Government Committee. The bill was pulled by the author at the request of the bill's sponsors, AFSCME Local 1902, in light of successful contract resolution, the flood of letters in opposition to the bill and ongoing and productive discussions between Metropolitan management and AFSCME Local 1902 officers concerning future staffing levels.

In May, the Governor proposed that staff within the California Bay-Delta Authority be housed within the Resources Agency. In the course of negotiations on the Governor's FY 06/07 budget proposal, a compromise was struck to keep staffing levels within the Secretary of Resources "tight" by limiting the number of CBDA employees transferred to Resources Agency. In light of the short-term budget solution for CALFED, Assemblywoman Lois Wolk (D-Davis) has decided to withhold moving forward on her long-term governance bill, AB 1244, until next legislative session.

Senator Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica), chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee, recently amended her bill, SB 1574, to require that the Secretary of the Resources Agency convene a cabinet-level committee to develop a "Blueprint for a Sustainable Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta." Metropolitan had concerns on the prior version of the bill, but the most recent amendments shift the focus of the bill and is consistent with policies adopted by Metropolitan's Board in April to support actions that promote an environmentally and

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economically sustainable Delta. In light of the board's policy direction, Metropolitan will speak favorably to the bill when it is before the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee on June 27.

Another measure of Senator Kuehl, SB 1640, was recently amended to address many of the concerns raised by groundwater purveyors around the state. Metropolitan, an early supporter of the bill, believes SB 1640 is designed to increase an understanding of water use in California and enhance the effectiveness and value of water resources planning and management that is key to future water supply reliability. The Assembly water policy committee will hear the bill on June 27.

### *Regional*

Metropolitan sponsored the June 2 inaugural luncheon for the Inland Empire Affairs Network, where Governor Schwarzenegger's Cabinet Secretary Fred Aguiar was the keynote speaker. Metropolitan director David DeJesus and Chino Councilmember Eunice Ulloa attended.

More than 700 business and community leaders and elected officials attended Metropolitan's Community Water Conservation Festival June 3. Participants included member agencies, the Department of Water Resources, local water districts and water conservation vendors. The festival featured workshops designed to educate residents and commercial users on water-wise techniques such as creating and maintaining a California Friendly landscape, improving landscape irrigation, and incorporating composting methods.

Directors De Jesus, Pocklington, Record and Wright and staff toured Baja California, Mexico, June 6-8 to learn about water issues affecting the northern sector of Mexico and its respective environmental impacts to the overall region. The trip provided an opportunity for directors to dialogue with high-level state and federal water officials from the cities of Mexicali, Tecate, and Tijuana as well as with Baja state representatives from the agricultural and water interests.

More than 30 homebuilders and land developers attended the first partnership meeting between Metropolitan and the U. S. Green Building Council June 8 to promote water conservation in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Homes Program. Builders and land developers were encouraged to implement Metropolitan's California Friendly specifications for landscapes and in-door fixtures and appliances and were given extra credit in the program for their attendance.

Metropolitan sponsored or helped coordinate several large community events in June, including: a reception June 8 for elected officials as part of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association's Annual Gala Awards Dinner; a small business awards breakfast June 9 for the United Chambers of Commerce; the Riverside County Water Symposium on June 22, which was organized by Riverside County Supervisor Marion Ashley and hosted by Director Randy Record; and the Western Riverside Council of Governments Annual Assembly Dinner on June 29, which was attended by Director Terry Mylne.

MWD State Legislative Matrix

Bill Author	Amended Date; Location	Title - Summary	MWD Position	Effect on MWD
AB 342 Baca (D)	Dead	<b>Perchlorate Fee</b> - Declares the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would authorize the Department of Toxic Substances Control to assess a fee on products that contain perchlorate and to expand those funds to treat drinking water wells contaminated with perchlorate.	Watch	Position based on Board-adopted policy principle.
AB 371 Goldberg (D)	8/30/2005; Senate Inactive File	<b>Water Recycling</b> - Seeks to: 1) create incentives in the State Water Resources Control Board's annual fee structure for publicly-owned treatment works; 2) require recycled water producers to provide the state Departments of Transportation and General Services with specified information regarding future availability of recycled water for landscaping 3) require the Department of Water Resources to develop building code standards for recycled water systems; and 4) remove "skull and crossbones" symbol for recycled water.	Support 8/15/2005	As initially introduced, this bill included several additional provisions to improve local agencies' abilities to increase delivery of recycled water. The bill has been pared down to include only non-controversial items. However, it has been made a two-year bill and is intended to serve as a vehicle should the WaterReuse Associate reach consensus on additional provisions.
AB 492 Baca (D)	5/26/2005; Senate Third Reading File	<b>Hazardous Materials: Perchlorate/Business Plans</b> - Requires a business that handles perchlorate material to include, as part of its business plan and any updates to the plan, information detailing the manner in which perchlorate waste generated onsite is disposed or otherwise handled.	Watch 5/26/2005	Position based on Board-adopted policy principle.
AB 984 Laird (D)	1/4/2006; Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee	<b>Tamarisk Plant Control</b> - Authorizes a plan to control or eradicate tamarisk plants in the Colorado River Watershed. Requires collaboration with affected water agencies and other affected entities.	Support 1/4/2006	Position based on historical practice. The bill provides State support for removal of invasive species from the Colorado River watershed, which supports both environmental and water conservation goals that are supported by Metropolitan.
AB 1244 Wolk (D)	5/3/2006; Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee	<b>CALFED Bay-Delta Program</b> - Clarifies the relationship of the California Bay-Delta Authority and its implementing agencies with the federal government with regard to the California Bay-Delta Program and to conform the state act to the federal act, requiring state agencies to cooperate with federal agencies to meet the goals of the program. Authorizes the Authority to enter into specified cooperative agreements to carry out the program. Authorizes the lead scientist to seek assistance from experts for scientific programs.	Support if Amended 05/3/2006	In light of pending discussions on a long-term finance plan for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the pending fiscal/program review undertaken by the Schwarzenegger Administration, the bill was placed on the inactive file until next year to allow both efforts to proceed.

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<p>AB 1245 Wolk (D)</p>	<p>4/21/2005; Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee</p>	<p><b>CALFED Bay-Delta Program</b> - Relates to the California Bay-Delta Authority. Establishes the Environmental Water Account Fund for the benefit of the California Bay-Delta Environmental Water Account Program. Authorizes the money in the fund to be expended for the protection and recovery of fishery resources, the adjustment of the operations of the State Water Project, or the Central Valley Project, or the acquisition of water to supplement the water made available by regulation. Authorizes the acquiring or selling of water.</p>	<p>Support 04/21/2005</p>	<p>The EWA is an important element of Metropolitan's water supply reliability. In light of pending discussions on a long-term finance plan for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the pending fiscal/program review undertaken by the Schwarzenegger Administration, the author made the bill a two-year bill.</p>
<p>AB 1290 La Malfa (R)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Water Use Fees</b> - Declares that it is the intent of the Legislature to finance programs that were formerly funded by the imposition of fees for a specified application, registration, petition, request, or proof of claim relating to water use, or a notice to extract groundwater by appropriating funds from the fund that remain available for that purpose.</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>This bill seeks to effectively and completely eliminate funding for the SWRCB's Division of Water Rights. It eliminates the SWRCB's ability to carry out its general regulatory responsibilities and would eliminate funds necessary to process water rights filings and to administer existing water rights.</p>
<p>AB 1341 Environmental Safety &amp; Toxic Material Cmte</p>	<p>8/22/05; Senate Environmental Quality Committee</p>	<p><b>Hazardous Waste: Major Appliance Disposal</b> - Makes a technical, nonsubstantive change to existing law that requires a person who transports, delivers, or sells discarded major appliances to a scrap recycling facility to provide evidence that the person is a certified appliance recycler and that prohibits a scrap recycling facility from accepting a discarded major appliance from any person who is not a certified appliance recycler.</p>	<p>Watch 6/21/2005</p>	<p>Position based on Board-adopted policy principle.</p>
<p>AB 1354 Baca (D)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Drinking Water: Perchlorate Levels</b> - Requires the Department of Health Services to establish a maximum drinking water standard contaminant level for perchlorate of 6 parts per billion, to be phased in over a period of two years commencing January 1, 2006.</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Position based on Board-adopted policy principle. Metropolitan historically opposes legislation that seeks to set MCLs through legislation versus the regulatory process.</p>
<p>AB 1453 Daucher (R)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Superior Courts: Adjudication of Rights to Produce</b> - Establishes nine water divisions in the superior courts of specified counties. Requires the presiding judge of the superior court of each specified county to assign a water judge to the water division to preside over actions that involve the adjudication of rights to produce groundwater. Provides for the transfer of groundwater actions to those court. Requires the presiding judge to consider the experience in groundwater adjudications of each candidate for assignment as a water judge.</p>	<p>Support in Concept 3/30/2005</p>	<p>Judges with a water law background would provide greater efficiency and expertise in adjudicating and improving the administration of groundwater cases.</p>

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<p>AB 1665 Laird (D)</p>	<p>6/7/2006; Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee</p>	<p><b>Water Resources</b> - Requires the of mapping areas at risk of flooding in the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers drainage. Require a flood control system status report. Authorizes plans and estimates of costs for maintenance of levees, channels, and floodways. Requires the levy of special assessments upon certain lands. Requires written notice to levee flood protection zone landowners. Relates to flood control and environmental restoration project planning, design and construction. Increases flood protection in certain cities.</p>	<p>Watch 08/15/2005</p>	<p>DWR sponsored bill in response to the Paterno court decision.</p>
<p>AB 2396 Calderon (D)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Metropolitan Water Districts</b> - Relates to the Metropolitan Water District Act. Amends the act to change the composition of the board of directors and to provide for the direct election of members of the board by voters residing in the service area of the district.</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Position based on historical practice.</p>
<p>AB 2397 Calderon (D)</p>	<p>Senate Local Government Committee</p>	<p><b>Metropolitan Water Districts: Service Contracts</b> - Relates to the Metropolitan Water District Act. Prohibits a district from entering into a contract for permanent or temporary services, skilled or unskilled, if such services are of a kind that persons selected through its civil service system could perform adequately and competently.</p>	<p>Oppose</p>	<p>Position based on historical practice.</p>
<p>AB 2496 Laird (D)</p>	<p>Senate Transportation and Housing</p>	<p><b>Water Conservation: Low-Fulsh Water Closets</b> - Requires all new buildings constructed in the state that use tank type use water closets to use a specified amount of water per flush that is less than currently allowed. Requires all new buildings that uses flushometer type water closets and all wash-down urinals to use a specified amount of water per flush that is less than that currently allowed. Requires the same of tank type and all flushometer-type water closets.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Position based on Board-adopted policy principle</p>
<p>AB 2951 Goldberg (D)</p>	<p>SENATE</p>	<p><b>Capital Facilities Fees</b> - Requires a public agency that provides public utility services to only charge a public agency rates, charges, surcharges or fees that are determined on the basis of the same objective criteria and methodology applicable to comparable nonpublic users. Provides commencement requirements for any judicial action or proceeding brought by a public agency that seeks a refund or challenges the validity, of a fee, rate, charge, or surcharge or increase, or any action to validate an ordinance.</p>	<p>Watch 4/17/2006</p>	<p>Could impact the annual reimposition of Metropolitan's capacity charge.</p>

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<p>ACA 13 Harman (R)</p>	<p>4/21/2005; Assembly Local Government Committee</p>	<p><b>Local Government: Assessments and Fees or Charges -</b> Proposes a Constitutional Amendment that excludes a fee or charge related to flood control, stormwater drainage or surface water drainage from restrictions on the imposition or increase of a property-related fee or charge by a city, county or special district.</p>	<p>Watch 4/21/2005</p>	<p>Would exclude any levy for flood control purposes from the Constitutional requirements of Proposition 218, including any levy imposed to finance capital costs or maintenance and operation expenses for flood control. If the Legislature and the voters approved this change to Proposition 218, it would make it easier for local flood control agencies to adopt assessments for flood control purposes since approvals would only be required from their respective boards.</p>
<p>ACR 84 Walters (R)</p>	<p>Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee</p>	<p><b>Ocean Water Desalination -</b> Memorializes the Legislature's support of the development of ocean water desalination, where economically and environmentally appropriate, as an element of a balanced water supply portfolio to increase available water supply, to meet current and future water demands, and to reduce the level of dependence on imported water supplies.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>This resolution is for support of future seawater desalination projects. It could facilitate development of seawater desalination projects by Metropolitan or our member agencies to meet the IRP Update targets for desalination.</p>
<p>SB 31 Florez (D)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Water Fees -</b> Revises provisions for making water rights filings with the State Water Resources Control Board. Changes the listing of applications subject to the board's schedule of fees. Denominates the fees as transaction fees. Limits the fees to processing costs. Requires adjustments of individual transaction fees. Requires the annual permit or license fees to be imposed based upon the number of acre-feet of water covered by the permit or license.</p>	<p>Oppose Unless Amended</p>	<p>This bill would not provide adequate funding for the SWRCB Division of Water Rights thus severely impacting the Division's ability to address misuse of water or environmental impacts. Also, the federal CVP's share of fees could be shifted to SWP contractors and other water users.</p>

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<p>SB 113 Machado (D)</p>	<p>4/14/2005; Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee (TWO-YEAR BILL)</p>	<p><b>California Bay-Delta Authority Act</b> - Relates to existing law which requires the California Bay-Delta Authority to review, approve, and make recommendations regarding certain annual program plans and project expenditures submitted by the implementing agencies based on prescribed criteria. Requires the Authority, in undertaking that review, approval or modification, to consider the extent to which those plans or expenditures are consistent with the beneficiary pays principle.</p>	<p>Oppose 4/14/2005</p>	<p>Seeks to define the CALFED concept of "beneficiary pays." Metropolitan is concerned that the measure's definitions of public and private benefits and its general descriptions of what types of projects would and would not be eligible for public funding would effectively create a burden of proof for using public funds for such purposes as water use efficiency projects. In light of pending discussions on a long-term finance plan for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the pending fiscal/program review undertaken by the Schwarzenegger Administration, the bill was made a two-year bill.</p>
<p>SB 187 Soto (D)</p>	<p>6/8/2006; Assembly Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials Committee</p>	<p><b>Drinking Water: Contaminants</b> - Requires OEHHA to revise the perchlorate PHG if 1) "any risk assessment conducted by any state agency in the United States after April 1, 2005" concludes that perchlorate exposure below 6 ppb is a risk to pregnant women, fetuses, infants or other vulnerable sub-populations; or 2) any state agency in the U.S. establishes an MCL lower than 6 ppb. Also requires DHS to revise the perchlorate MCL if the PHG is revised.</p>	<p>Oppose 6/22/2005</p>	<p>Position based on Board-adopted policy principle. Establishes a dangerous precedent in that it gives deference to regulatory agencies outside California. Undercuts OEHHA's authority, requires OEHHA to revise the PHG independent of the quality of the risk assessment conducted by another agency and fails to recognize that a margin of safety is already built into the current PHG.</p>
<p>SB 350 Machado (D)</p>	<p>7/5/2005; Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee</p>	<p><b>San Joaquin River Restoration and Water Management</b> - Sponsored by the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Central/South Delta Water Agencies, this bill would establish the San Joaquin River Fund to provide grants for "restoration of streamflows and native anadromous fish populations" or "acquisition of cost-effective replacement water supplies and related actions." Appropriates \$9.16 million from Proposition 13 (proceeds from a grant previously awarded to but reverted from the Friant Water Users Authority) and directs the Secretary of Resources to expend funds in roughly equal amounts for grants for restoration and water supply projects.</p>	<p>Watch 7/5/2005</p>	<p>Friant and NRDC have been in an intense court conflict over San Joaquin River restoration since 1988. Metropolitan has an interest in actions taken on the San Joaquin River because such actions could improve source water quality and, potentially, improve the regulatory environment for SWP operations by helping to increase fish populations.</p>



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<p>SB 393 Ortiz (D)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Special Districts</b> - Requires audits of special purpose districts to be performed in accordance with government auditing standards for financial audits. Requires the governing boards of special districts to conduct legal and ethics orientation sessions that governing board members would be required to attend, if they choose to receive compensation for their activities. Specifies whistle-blower protections for members who make protected disclosures of improper governmental activities.</p>	<p>Oppose 5/10/2005</p>	<p>This bill unfairly singles out special districts and the travel reimbursement restrictions that remain in the measure are too inflexible and may not allow for necessary travel.</p>
<p>SB 866 Kehoe (D)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Water Use Measurement Information</b> - Requires the Department of Water Resources to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report with regard to various matters concerning water use measurement information. Requires the department to conduct a study to determine the cost-effectiveness of more accurate farm-gate measurement and report to the Legislature. Requires the department to develop and implement jointly with the Department of Health Services the use of a coordinated water use reporting database.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>Creates a single point of information for agricultural and urban water uses and would help Metropolitan develop better water supply strategies and help determine the effectiveness of existing water measurement practices in the state. In light of pending discussions on a long-term finance plan for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the pending fiscal/program review undertaken by the Schwarzenegger Administration, the bill was made a two-year bill.</p>
<p>SB 977 Ashburn (R)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Hazardous Substances: Perchlorate</b> - Contains provisions governing perchlorate contamination prevention, defines ""perchlorate"" to mean all perchlorate-containing compounds, and ""perchlorate material"" to mean perchlorate and all perchlorate-containing waste. Specifies that ""perchlorate"" does not include perchlorate located in unused military munitions.</p>	<p>Watch</p>	<p>Position based on Board-adopted policy principle.</p>
<p>SB 978 Ashburn (R)</p>	<p>Dead</p>	<p><b>Water Use: Military Land and Housing Areas</b> - Requires an urban water supplier to install water meters on all municipal and industrial water service connections that are located in its service area. Requires an urban water supplier to charge each customer that has a service connection for which a water meter has been installed, based on the actual volume of deliveries, as measured by a water meter.</p>	<p>Oppose Unless Amended</p>	<p>Position based on Board-adopted policy principle. To the extent that Metropolitan's water serves military bases, this bill impedes efforts to implement water-use efficiency across all classes of customers in an equitable manner.</p>

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<p>SB 1506 Margett (R)</p>	<p>3/30/2006; Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee</p>	<p><b>Department of Water Resources: Water Projects: Energy -</b> Exempts, for purposes of the State Water Project, certain contracts and agreements relating to the purchase and sale of electric power or natural gas entered into by the Department of Water Resources for those purposes. Exempts those contracts from specified state contracting law, if the department determines that the application of those contracting laws is detrimental to the purposes of the State Water Project.</p>	<p>Support</p>	<p>This bill would benefit Metropolitan, which pays the vast majority of SWP power costs, by granting DWR more flexibility in its power and natural gas procurement, and by expediting DWR's ability to enter into such agreements.</p>
<p>SB 1574 Kuehl (D)</p>	<p>Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee</p>	<p><b>Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta -</b> Relates to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta or the Sacramento and San Joaquin river systems. Requires one of those principal options to be designated to reduce dependence on the delta for water supply through greater investments in local water supplies, water use efficiency, water recycling, demand management programs, and other actions outside the delta.</p>	<p>Oppose Unless Amended</p>	<p>Position based on Board-adopted policy principle.</p>
<p>SB 1640 Kuehl (D)</p>	<p>4/19/2006; ASSEMBLY</p>	<p><b>Water -</b> Relates to a report of hydrologic conditions of water project facilities to each contractor, water diversions covered by a permit or license for small domestic or livestock stockpond uses, civil liability for failing to file a statement for a diversion or use, the California Water Plan, and coordination of an urban water management plan with utilities that provide electric or gas service.</p>	<p>4/19/2006; Support</p>	<p>Position based on support for SB 820. This bill promotes better planning by state and local planning agencies and will provide a heightened level of reliability and certainty to existing and future customers of state, regional and local water purveyors.</p>