

- **Board of Directors**  
**Water Planning and Stewardship Committee**

July 10, 2007 Board Meeting

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8-5

### **Subject**

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Authorize renewal of the Municipal Water Quality Investigation Program with the Department of Water Resources and related agreements with other State Water Project contractors

### **Description**

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Authority is requested to enter into an agreement to expand the current Municipal Water Quality Investigation monitoring program (MWQI Program) with the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Progress has been made to implement water quality monitoring and forecasting in the Delta portion of DWR's system. To date, the Program has proven to be of value by ensuring that comprehensive water quality monitoring and analysis are conducted, primarily in the Delta. The next step that would increase value to Metropolitan is to expand the monitoring program along the entire reach of the California Aqueduct. Metropolitan and other State Water Project contractors would benefit from this expanded program because of its ability to provide operational data to optimize introduction of off aqueduct supplies and to predict the need for short-term treatment and system changes.

The expanded monitoring system would provide Metropolitan and DWR with more reliable water quality assessments in the California Aqueduct to make aqueduct, system or treatment changes to avoid water quality concerns associated with short-term spikes of high bromide or organic carbon supplies. The expanded scope of the MWQI program will require additional staff and equipment.

- Proposed Annual Budget of Expanded Program: \$3.1 million (Metropolitan's share is about 70 percent or \$2.2 million)
- Current Annual Budget of Program: \$2.2 million (Metropolitan's share is \$1.6 million)

### **Background**

The highly variable quality of State Water Project water influences the operation of Metropolitan's system and its water treatment process. Increasingly restrictive state and federal drinking water standards, concerns over emerging contaminants such as personal care products and pharmaceuticals, algal taste and odors, and Delta ecosystem fisheries issues are critical variables. The original purpose of DWR's MWQI program is to monitor, protect, and improve drinking water quality of Delta water deliveries to the urban State Water Contractors and other users of Delta water. The program focuses on issues related to drinking water quality through regular water quality monitoring, special field and laboratory studies, the use of forecasting tools such as computer models and data management systems, and reporting. While the program has developed extensive monitoring in the Delta including recently developed real-time monitoring, increased monitoring along the California Aqueduct is the next major step.

Recently, the urban State Water Project contractors secured DWR's commitment to broaden the program to include the entire California Aqueduct. However, the expanded scope will require additional staff resources. DWR is proceeding with securing the necessary staff by January 2008. The following table shows DWR's breakdown of costs for the expanded comprehensive program.

<b>Estimate of MWQI Program Costs</b>	
Water Quality Monitoring	\$775,000
Forecasting, Modeling, and Analysis	\$1,426,000
Scientific Evaluation	\$341,000
Program Management	\$372,000
Special Studies	\$186,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,100,000</b>

Metropolitan has supported the current MWQI program since 1990. The current agreement expires December 31, 2008. Fifteen SWP contractors that serve municipal customers – the program beneficiaries – have separate uniform agreements with DWR regarding their financial participation. The 15 SWP contractors approve the annual MWQI program work plan, budget, and requests for supplemental water quality related services.

Under the proposed MWQI agreement with DWR, the program would be funded through SWP contract payments (Statement of Charges) to DWR. Participating State Water Contractors shown in **Attachment 1** would contribute to the costs in accordance to their proportional allocation of Table A contract amounts. Agreements also exist between the State Water Project Contractors Authority (SWPCA) members for the purpose of performing and expediting certain water quality MWQI services. The SWPCA, the Joint Powers Authority, is an organization of State Water Contractors with the ability to contract with DWR to undertake specified projects and services. Metropolitan has been a member of the JPA since 2003.

#### **Proposed Program Agreement Provisions**

The provisions of the new agreement are:

- Agreement term: Three years
- Entities performing work: DWR and SWPCA
- Annual DWR budget approval: Governed by participating State Water Project Contractors
- Supplemental water quality services: DWR contracts with SWPCA

#### **Program Benefits**

Continuing the program would specifically benefit real-time operations and long-term planning as follows:

- Real-time monitoring, predicting water quality, associated system operation decisions; and annual planning for storage, distribution and treatment.
- Long-term planning includes development of tools and database for decisions regarding operations of the Bay-Delta; protection of tributary source waters to the Bay-Delta; effects of future drinking water standards; and SWP operational changes that affect water quality.

#### **Program Accomplishments**

Recent program accomplishments include:

- Completed the 2006 SWP Watershed Sanitary Survey
- Expanded real-time collection and reporting of water quality data in the Bay-Delta
- Developed a water data library of historical data and laboratory analysis information

#### **Policy**

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Minute Item No. 46443, the Board, at its November 8, 2005 meeting, authorized entering into a renewed MWQI Agreement

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves continuing administrative activities (Section 15378(b)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines). In addition, the proposed action is not subject to 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).

The CEQA determination is: Determine that the proposed action is not subject to the provisions of CEQA pursuant to Sections 15378(b)(2) and 15378(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

**Board Options**

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**Option #1**

Adopt the CEQA determination and

- a. Authorize the General Manager to enter into a new three-year program agreement with DWR; and
- b. Authorize the General Manager to enter into SWPCA agreements with participating State Water Contractors.

**Fiscal Impact:** About \$2.2 million annually. Funds are included in Metropolitan’s FY 2007/08 Operation and Maintenance Budget.

**Business Analysis:** Real-time water quality reporting and forecasting for use in developing early warning of and rapid response to changing conditions and emergencies throughout the State Water Project system.

**Option #2**

Allow the existing MWQI Agreement with DWR to expire on December 31, 2008.

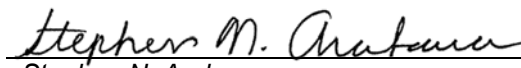
**Fiscal Impact:** Currently approved \$1.6 million annually. Funds are included in Metropolitan’s FY 2007/08 Operation and Maintenance Budget.

**Business Analysis:** Maintain status quo of real-time water quality information for use in early warning and response to changing conditions and emergencies with a focus on Delta water quality.

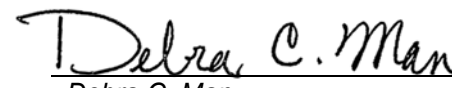
**Staff Recommendation**

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Option #1

  
 Stephen N. Arakawa  
 Manager, Water Resource Management

6/21/2007  
Date

  
 Debra C. Man  
 for Jeffrey Kightlinger  
 General Manager

6/21/2007  
Date

**Attachment 1 – State Water Project Contractors that are Expected to Participate in the Municipal Water Quality Investigation Program**

**State Water Project Contractors that are Expected  
to Participate in the Municipal Water Quality Investigation Program**

<b>Participating SWP Contractor</b>	<b>Table A (acre-feet)*</b>	<b>Cost Allocation* %</b>
Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7	80,619	2.86
Alameda County Water District	42,000	1.49
Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency	141,400	5.02
Castaic Lake Water Agency	95,200	3.38
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency	5,800	0.21
Kern County Water Agency	121,600	4.32
Mojave Water Agency	75,800	2.69
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	1,911,500	67.86
Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	29,025	1.03
Palmdale Water District	21,300	0.76
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	102,600	3.64
San Geronio Pass Water Agency	17,300	0.61
San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	25,000	0.89
Santa Clara Valley Water District	100,000	3.55
Solano County Water Agency	47,756	1.70
Total:	2,816,900	100

\* Cost allocation is based on SWP contract Table A amounts (KCWA amount is based on Municipal and Industrial Table A component) and will vary from year to year (amounts shown are for 2007).