



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

12/14/2010 Board Meeting

8-6

Subject

Authorize (1) renewal of the Municipal Water Quality Investigation Agreement with the Department of Water Resources and participating State Water Project contractors, and (2) amendments to Municipal Water Quality Investigation Agreement with the State Water Project Contractors Authority

Description

Authority is requested to enter into a contract and a contract amendment to continue the Department of Water Resources (Department) Municipal Water Quality Investigation (MWQI) Program. Under these agreements, Metropolitan benefits from: water quality monitoring of public health constituents, forecasts of changing conditions that affect drinking water quality, and early warnings of water quality events. Data provided by this program is used to manage the cost of treatment processes and affects operational decisions. Metropolitan's share of the annual MWQI Program budget is up to \$2.1 million. The proposed agreements would enable the partner contractors to work closely with the Department to define the scope of work and budget.

Program Features

The MWQI Program monitors key locations in and above the Delta for salt, organic carbon, bromide, and other drinking water constituents. Also, the program performs special water quality studies and models long-term water quality conditions. This information is posted on the Web and is readily available for treatment plant operators and managers. The program assists Metropolitan by providing:

- access to real-time data that helps manage treatment costs, assess non-project pump-in proposals, and observe the impacts of water from storage programs
- long-term planning that includes development of tools that improve decision-making related to State Water Project (SWP) operations, protection of Delta source waters, and the ability to meet future drinking water standards

Background

The highly variable quality of SWP deliveries affects the operation of Metropolitan's system and the water treatment process. In addition, recent court-ordered SWP pumping restrictions to protect fish in the Delta alter historic Delta export pumping patterns. These new pumping patterns affect water quality. Levee breaks and island flooding, storm water inflows, oil pipeline breaks, and groundwater pump-ins also affect water quality. Metropolitan's ability to meet drinking water standards and control treatment costs starts with source water quality.

Metropolitan has participated in the MWQI Program since 1990. The current agreement expires December 31, 2010. Under the proposed agreement with the Department, the MWQI program would continue through SWP contract payments to the Department and payments to the State Water Project Contractors Authority (SWPCA).

The 16 urban SWP contractors agreed to fund the Municipal Water Quality Investigation Program based on the proportionate share of water as shown in Table A of their water supply contract.

Under the proposed MWQI agreement with DWR, the program would be funded through SWP contract payments (Statement of Charges) to DWR. The 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, is an organization of State Water Contractors with the ability to contract with DWR to undertake specified projects and services.

The term of the program agreement is three years. The total cost of the MWQI Program is \$3.1 million with Metropolitan's cost up to \$2.1 million. This represents no change from the prior three years. The proportionate share of cost for each contractor is shown on [Attachment 1](#).

Policy

Minute Item No. 47166, the Board, at its July 10, 2007 meeting, authorized entering into a renewed MWQI Agreement

Minute Item No. 48302, the Board, at its June 8, 2010 meeting, authorized payments up to \$866,831 to the SWPCA for FY 2010/11, which included MWQI payments to the SWPCA

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

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 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

Option #1

Adopt the CEQA determination and

- a. Authorize the General Manager to renew the 3-year MWQI agreement with the Department; and
- b. Authorize the General Manager to enter into an amended MWQI agreement with the SWPCA to extend the term by three years, with Metropolitan's total costs up to \$2.1 million annually for both agreements.

Fiscal Impact: Up to \$2.1 million annually. Funds are included in the FY 2010/11 Operations and Maintenance Budget.

Business Analysis: Participation provides real-time water quality reporting and forecasting for use in operating Metropolitan's water treatment plants.

Option #2

Direct staff to seek other avenues to acquire necessary water quality information.

Fiscal Impact: Amount of expenditures for an alternate approach is unknown.

Business Analysis: To maintain the benefits of the program, it may be necessary for Metropolitan to invest its personnel or consultants to replace functions currently handled by Department staff. Metropolitan's long-developed relationships with the Department and the other participating contractors may be diminished.

Staff Recommendation

Option #1


Deven N. Upadhyay
Manager, Water Resource Management

11/18/2010
Date


Jeffrey Kightlinger
General Manager

11/19/2010
Date

Attachment 1 – State Water Project Contractors That Are Expected To Participate In The Municipal Water Quality Investigation Program

Ref# wrm12605012

***State Water Project Contractors That Are Expected
To Participate In The Municipal Water Quality Investigation Program**

Participating SWP Contractor	Table A (Acre-Feet)*	Cost Allocation* %	Total MWQI Charge
Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Zone 7	80,619	2.81	\$87,000
Alameda County Water District	42,000	1.46	\$45,000
Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency	141,400	4.93	\$153,000
Castaic Lake Water Agency	95,200	3.32	\$103,000
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency	5,800	0.20	\$6,000
Kern County Water Agency	119,600	4.17	\$129,000
Mojave Water Agency	82,800	2.89	\$90,000
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	1,911,500	66.67	\$2,100,000
Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	29,025	1.01	\$31,000
Palmdale Water District	21,300	0.74	\$23,000
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	102,600	3.58	\$111,000
San Geronio Pass Water Agency	17,300	0.60	\$19,000
San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	25,000	0.87	\$25,000
Santa Clara Valley Water District	100,000	3.50	\$108,000
Central Coast Water Authority	45,486	1.59	\$49,000
Solano County Water Agency	47,556	1.66	\$51,000
Total:	<u>2,867,186</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>\$3,100,000</u>

* Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding