



Authorize execution of agreements related to interim binational measures in the Colorado River Basin; and authorize payment of up to \$5 million for purchase of supplies

Water Planning and Stewardship Committee
Item 8-4

November 5, 2012

Background – Minute No. 319

- United States and Mexico anticipate signing by end of November
 - Cooperative measures through 2017
 - Storage of water in US Reservoirs
 - Shortage and surplus operations
 - Pilot exchange program
 - Mexico storage to ICS
 - Water for the environment
 - Potential for future international projects



Background – Pilot Project



U.S. and local agencies fund conservation in Mexico

Mexico reduces Colorado River diversions

Mexico's delivery reduction stored in US Reservoirs

Mexico's storage converted to Binational ICS for funding agencies

U.S. agencies to take delivery of Binational ICS through 2036

Implementing Agreements

- Forbearance agreement
 - Parties: Surplus contractors in CA, AZ, and NV
 - Ensures receipt of water by funding agencies
- Delivery agreement
 - Parties: Metropolitan and USBR
 - Provides terms for delivery of water

Implementing Agreements

- Interim operating agreement
 - Parties: USBR and Lower and Upper Basin States and agencies
 - Provides operational rules for implementing Minute No. 319
 - Surplus sharing with Mexico

Implementing Agreements

- Interim operating agreement (ctd.)
 - Surplus sharing with Mexico (ctd.)
 - Lower Basin would reduce surplus deliveries equal to amount received by Mexico
 - Each state accommodates 1/3 of total reduction
 - Low probability of surplus (<17% through 2017)
 - Metropolitan would reduce surplus deliveries, when available, by up to 13,333 acre-feet

Implementing Agreements

- Funding agreement
 - Parties: MWD, CAP, SNWA, and the United States
 - Metropolitan funding share: \$5,000,000 for 47,500 acre-feet
 - Water stored as Binational ICS credits in Lake Mead
 - Not subject to evaporation losses
 - Available for delivery through 2036
 - MWD in discussions for IID to participate upon mutual agreement

Board Options

- Option #1
 - Adopt CEQA determination
 - Authorize Metropolitan to enter into multiple agreements and approve payment of up to \$5 million for purchase of supplies from the international pilot project
- Option #2
 - Adopt CEQA determination
 - Do not authorize Metropolitan to enter into multiple agreements and do not approve payment of up to \$5 million for purchase of supplies from the international pilot project

Staff Recommendation

- Option #1

