



- Board of Directors  
*Engineering and Operations Committee*

3/12/2013 Board Meeting

---

**7-2**

## **Subject**

---

Appropriate \$190,000; and authorize preliminary design of storm water management improvements at the F. E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant (Approp. 15477)

## **Executive Summary**

---

This action authorizes planning and preliminary design of site improvements at the F. E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant to prevent storm water pollution. Permanent improvements will be needed to comply with upcoming changes to the site's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

### **Timing and Urgency**

The F. E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant and several key facilities that support Metropolitan's distribution system are co-located on a 150-acre site in the city of La Verne. The collective La Verne site is the only Metropolitan location regulated under the industrial category of the statewide NPDES general permit, which addresses storm water pollutant discharges from industrial facilities. An updated version of the statewide NPDES general permit is anticipated to be adopted in 2013. This updated permit will contain more stringent pollutant action levels for storm water runoff and will include penalties for noncompliance. Long-term storm water management improvements at the La Verne site are needed to reliably meet the requirements of the current and updated NPDES permit.

This project has been reviewed with Metropolitan's Capital Investment Plan (CIP) prioritization criteria and is categorized as a Regulatory project. Funds for this action are available within Metropolitan's capital expenditure plan for fiscal year 2012/13.

## **Details**

---

### **Background**

The Weymouth plant was placed into service in 1941 with an initial capacity of 100 million gallons per day (mgd), and was expanded twice to its present capacity of 520 mgd. The plant delivers a blend of waters from the Colorado River and the State Water Project to Metropolitan's Central Pool portion of the distribution system, and to an exclusive service area. Due to its central location and status as Metropolitan's first treatment plant, many district-wide support facilities such as the Water Quality Laboratory and Machine/Fabrication Shop are located at the La Verne site.

### **Weymouth Storm Water Management Improvements – Preliminary Design Phase (\$190,000)**

Since 1999, the collective La Verne site has been regulated under the industrial category of the statewide NPDES general permit, which is a permit for control of pollutant discharges in storm water from specific types of industrial facilities. The La Verne site's NPDES permit is administered by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), which requires Metropolitan to submit annual reports that: (1) describe the implementation of best management practices at the site to reduce or prevent pollutants in storm water discharges; (2) provide results from storm water sampling and analyses from two different storm events each year, and compare those pollutant levels against U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) benchmark values; and

(3) verify the effectiveness of pollutant control measures. The current permit has no enforcement provisions or fines for noncompliance. The State Water Resources Control Board is in the process of reissuing the statewide NPDES general permit to include changes such as the addition of numeric action levels for pollutants in lieu of USEPA benchmarks. The latest draft version was posted in July 2012 for public comment.

Treatment plants are not typically included in the industrial category under the statewide NPDES general permit. However, the Los Angeles RWQCB classified the La Verne site as industrial in 1999 due to the industrial wastewater permit in place at that time for decant-water discharge from the Weymouth plant's solids lagoons. To comply with the current NPDES permit requirements, staff has implemented a comprehensive storm water pollution prevention plan for the La Verne site which includes multiple operational and maintenance procedures; mandatory training for plant staff; and installation of pollutant control measures throughout the property. In response to notices from the RWQCB, staff has upgraded the storm water pollution prevention efforts on the site, such as installation of additional nonstructural pollutant control measures and improved "housekeeping" throughout the site. In order to reliably meet the current permit requirements and the more stringent requirements of the pending NPDES general permit, long-term structural improvements are needed. The industrial category of the pending permit has undergone significant revision. The updated NPDES general permit is anticipated to be adopted in 2013.

The planned project includes detailed planning and preliminary design of long-term storm water management improvements for the entire 150-acre La Verne site. The effort will include identification of potential sources of pollutants, a hydrology analysis to identify the pathways and volume of storm water runoff, consultations with permitting agencies, and recommendations for: (1) erosion control measures; (2) canopies to protect outdoor storage areas from rainfall and runoff; (3) improvements to support best management practices during operation and maintenance activities; and (4) development of construction cost estimates.

This action appropriates \$190,000 and authorizes planning and preliminary design of storm water management improvements at the La Verne site. The work will be performed primarily by Metropolitan staff, with specialized support from Geosyntec Consultants, as discussed below.

#### **Specialized Technical Support - Geosyntec Consultants (No Action Required)**

Specialized technical support is recommended to be performed by Geosyntec Consultants under a professional services agreement. The planned scope includes development of a sampling plan, identification of the sources of pollutants, and evaluation of improvement options to manage storm water discharges from the La Verne site. The study will also identify improvements that would enhance compliance with both the current and pending NPDES permits. Geosyntec Consultants was selected through a competitive process via Request for Qualifications No. 966. The estimated cost for these services is \$60,000.

This project has been evaluated and recommended by Metropolitan's CIP Evaluation Team, and funds are available within the fiscal year 2012/13 capital expenditure plan. See [Attachment 1](#) for the Financial Statement and [Attachment 2](#) for the Location Map.

This work is included within capital Appropriation No. 15477, the Weymouth Improvements Program – FY 2012/13 through FY 2017/18. Other projects authorized under Appropriation No. 15477 include the Basin Inlet Channel Seismic Upgrades, Basin Inlet Gates Improvements, and Domestic and Fire Water System Upgrades. With the present action, the total funding for Appropriation No. 15477 will increase from \$830,000 to \$1,020,000.

***Project Milestone***

August 2013 – Completion of preliminary design of storm water pollution prevention improvements

**Policy**

---

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 5108: Appropriations

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

---

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action consists of basic data collection and resource evaluation activities, which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. This may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. Accordingly, the proposed action qualifies as a Class 6 Categorical Exemption (Section 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

The CEQA determination is: Determine that pursuant to CEQA, the proposed action qualifies under a Categorical Exemption (Class 6, Section 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

**Board Options**

---

**Option #1**

Adopt the CEQA determination and

- a. Appropriate \$190,000; and
- b. Authorize preliminary design of storm water management improvements at the Weymouth plant.

**Fiscal Impact:** \$190,000 in capital funds under Approp. 15477

**Business Analysis:** This option will enhance compliance with storm water regulations at the Weymouth plant.

**Option #2**

Do not authorize preliminary design at this time.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Business Analysis:** This option would lead to increased risk of noncompliance with storm water regulations at the Weymouth plant.



**Financial Statement for Weymouth Improvements Program – FY 2012/13 Through FY 2017/18**

A breakdown of Board Action No. 3 for Appropriation No. 15477 for storm water management improvements at the Weymouth plant<sup>1</sup> is as follows:

|  | <b>Previous Total<br/>Appropriated<br/>Amount<br/>(Aug. 2012)</b> | <b>Current Board<br/>Action No. 3<br/>(Mar. 2013)</b> | <b>New Total<br/>Appropriated<br/>Amount</b> |
|--|---|---|--|
| Labor                                      |   |   |  |
| Studies & Investigations                   | \$ 471,000  | \$ 74,000   | \$ 545,000                                   |
| Final Design                               | 71,000  | -   | 71,000                                       |
| Owner Costs (Program mgmt.,<br>permitting) | 134,000   | 34,700  | 168,700                                      |
| Submittals Review & Record Drwgs           | -   | -   | -  |
| Construction Inspection & Support          | -   | -   | -  |
| Metropolitan Force Construction            | 17,000  | -   | 17,000                                       |
| Materials & Supplies                       | -   | 500   | 500  |
| Incidental Expenses                        | 10,000  | 1,000   | 11,000                                       |
| Professional/Technical Services            | 4,000   | -   | 4,000  |
| Geosyntec Consultants                      | -   | 60,000  | 60,000                                       |
| Contracts                                  | -   | -   | -  |
| Remaining Budget                           | 123,000   | 19,800  | 142,800                                      |
| <b>Total</b>                               | <b>\$ 830,000</b>   | <b>\$ 190,000</b>                                     | <b>\$ 1,020,000</b>                          |

**Funding Request**

|                                   |  |                                  |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Program Name:</b>              | Weymouth Improvements Program – FY 2012/13 Through FY 2017/18  |                                  |                                |
| <b>Source of Funds:</b>           | Revenue Bonds, Replacement and Refurbishment, or General Funds |                                  |                                |
| <b>Appropriation No.:</b>         | 15477  | <b>Board Action No.:</b>         | 3                              |
| <b>Requested Amount:</b>          | \$ 190,000   | <b>Capital Program No.:</b>      | 15477-I                        |
| <b>Total Appropriated Amount:</b> | \$ 1,020,000   | <b>Capital Program Page No.:</b> | 340                            |
| <b>Total Program Estimate:</b>    | \$ 105,203,000   | <b>Program Goal:</b>             | I-Infrastructure & Reliability |

<sup>1</sup> This action is the initial appropriation for storm water management improvements at the Weymouth plant.

# Distribution System

