



- Board of Directors
Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

4/9/2019 Board Meeting

8-3

Subject

Authorize: (1) renewal of the Municipal Water Quality Investigations Program Agreement between the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Contractors and participating urban State Water Project Contractors, and (2) renewal of the Municipal Water Quality Investigations Program Specific Project Agreement between the State Water Contractors and participating urban State Water Project Contractors; the General Manager has determined that the proposed actions are exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Executive Summary

This letter seeks authority to enter into two agreements to continue Metropolitan's funding and participation in the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Municipal Water Quality Investigations (MWQI) Program. The multicomponent MWQI Program carries out the vital tasks of sampling, monitoring and protecting the water quality of the State Water Project (SWP). Water quality data provided by this program assists SWP Contractors in water management, operational decisions related to treatment processes, and supports scientific studies. Metropolitan's share of the annual MWQI Program budget remains at a level not to exceed \$2.1 million per year.

Details

In 1990, DWR implemented the MWQI Program to provide a broad-based program to provide the SWP Contractors information on known and emerging threats to drinking water quality. Its original purpose was to conduct source water quality monitoring in the Delta region. Since then, the MWQI Program evolved and expanded to carry out the following functions:

- Collect and analyzes discrete water quality samples ("grab samples") at 28 locations in the Delta and the SWP.
- Operate five real-time water quality monitoring stations located in the Delta and the SWP.
- Forecast SWP water quality weekly and yearly for the Delta and within the SWP conveyance and delivery system.
- Conduct research, analysis, and investigations of SWP water quality and related issues.
- Maintain a water quality database and program website.
- Disseminate water quality information and updates to SWP Contractors, water agencies, regulators, and other interested parties.

Recent accomplishments of the MWQI Program include completion of an update to the SWP Watershed Sanitary Survey and continued operation of the real-time water quality monitoring system. The SWP sanitary survey provides the dual benefits of identifying and monitoring known and emerging threats to water quality throughout the entire SWP system. The key benefit of the real-time monitoring stations is that they provide year-round and instantaneous water quality conditions at strategic locations in the Delta and SWP. This real-time information is available to system operators, water managers, treatment plant staff, SWP Contractors, and other interested parties as an early warning of changing water quality conditions for the improved management of SWP water supplies.

Sixteen urban SWP Contractors elected to participate in and fund the MWQI Program. Each participating contractor's share of the total program costs is in proportion to that contractor's annual Table A amount of project water as shown in their SWP contract. MWQI Program costs consist of salaries and overhead for DWR staff employed by the MWQI Program and operating expenses and equipment required to carry out the Program. These MWQI Program costs are included with all other charges under the SWP contracts and are billed annually in the contractor's SWP Statement of Charges.

The MWQI Specific Project Agreement funds certain supplemental costs that are not funded under the MWQI Program Agreement. These include a consultant to the MWQI Program, the funding of scientific studies, and technical consultants that support data acquisition and processing and maintenance of the MWQI Program website and water quality database. The MWQI Specific Project Agreement also expedites procurement of urgently needed equipment, parts or services. Fifteen urban SWP Contractors participate in and fund the MWQI Specific Project Agreement and these participating contractors along with the State Water Contractors, Inc. are the signatories to the MWQI Specific Project Agreement. Under this agreement, work is funded by payments made to the State Water Contractors, Inc.

The term of both program agreements is three years. The maximum total annual cost of the MWQI Program is \$3.1 million and Metropolitan's share is up to \$2.1 million per year. This represents no change from the prior three years. Actual expenses for the MWQI Program in 2018 were \$1.7 million. The proportionate share of cost for each contractor, which is based on municipal and industrial Table A amounts, is shown in **Attachment 1**.

Staff recommends entering into the proposed agreements to provide valuable water quality sampling, monitoring, water quality forecasting, data dissemination and scientific studies involving SWP water quality.

Policy

By Minute Item No. 50674, dated December 13, 2016, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute the MWQI Program Agreement and to execute the MWQI Program Specific Project Agreement.

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities.

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, such as the creation of government funding mechanisms or other governmental 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). In addition, the proposed action is categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines because the proposed action involves basic data collection and research activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource, which 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 (Class 6, Section 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines).

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

Board Options

Option #1

Authorize the General Manager to:

- a. Execute a renewal of the Municipal Water Quality Investigations Program Agreement between the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Contractors and participating urban State Water Project Contractors and continue the MWQI Program for an additional three-year term of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2022; and
- b. Execute a renewal of the Municipal Water Quality Investigations Program Specific Project Agreement between the State Water Contractors and participating urban State Water Project Contractors and continue the MWQI Program for an additional three-year term of January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2022.

Fiscal Impact: Up to \$2.1 million annually for the next three years.

Business Analysis: The SWP water quality data collected and the research and analyses produced by the MWQI program is available to monitor and protect the source quality of SWP water supplies, to inform water supply planning, scheduling, and delivery decisions, and to assist with the development of treatment strategies and compliance with drinking water regulations.

Option #2

Do not authorize the General Manager to execute the Municipal Water Quality Investigation agreements.

Fiscal Impact: Potential additional costs to carry out data collection, analysis and related services using some alternative personnel or vendor instead of continuing to rely on DWR with its central location, trained staff, and expertise to provide these services.

Business Analysis: DWR staff is in the area, has exclusive access to DWR facilities, and can efficiently collect the data and perform the work. If DWR is not carrying out the MWQI Program, the SWP water quality data collected and the research and analyses currently produced may be significantly scaled back or eliminated. Water managers, planning staff, and operations and treatment plant managers would have significantly less SWP water quality information available to carry out water supply planning, scheduling, and water treatment efforts.

Staff Recommendation

Option #1


 _____ 3/25/2019
 Brad Coffey Date
 Manager, Water Resource Management


 _____ 3/28/2019
 Jeffrey Kightlinger Date
 General Manager

Attachment 1 – Proportionate Share of Costs for the MWQI Agreement and the MWQI Specific Project Agreement

Ref# wrm12664839

**Proportionate Share of Costs for the MWQI Agreement and the MWQI Specific Project Agreement
STATEMENT OF CHARGES ALLOCATION FACTORS TABLE 1**

	M&I Table A	Proportionate Share
Alameda County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Zone 7	80,619	0.02841469
Alameda County Water District	42,000	0.01480317
Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency	144,844	0.05105120
Castaic Lake Water Agency	95,200	0.03355385
Santa Barbara County Flood Control & Water Conservation District	45,486	0.01603183
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency	5,800	0.00204425
Kern County Water Agency	79,000	0.02784406
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	1,911,500	0.67372050
Mojave Water Agency	89,800	0.03165059
Napa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District	29,025	0.01023005
Palmdale Water District	21,300	0.00750732
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	102,600	0.03616203
San Geronio Pass Water Agency	17,300	0.00609750
San Luis Obispo Co. Flood Control & Water Conservation District	25,000	0.00881141
Santa Clara Valley Water District	100,000	0.03524564
Solano County Water Agency	47,756	0.01683191
TOTAL	2,837,230	1.00000000

MWQI SPECIFIC PROJECT COMMITTEE CHARGE FACTORS TABLE 2

	M&I Table A	Proportionate Share
Alameda County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Zone 7	80,619	0.02866729
Alameda County Water District	42,000	0.01493477
Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency	144,844	0.05150503
Castaic Lake Water Agency	95,200	0.03385214
Santa Barbara County Flood Control & Water Conservation District	45,486	0.01617435
Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Water Agency	5,800	0.00206242
Kern County Water Agency	79,000	0.02809159
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	1,911,500	0.67970970
Mojave Water Agency	89,800	0.03193195
Napa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District	29,025	0.01032099
Palmdale Water District	21,300	0.00757406
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District	102,600	0.03648350
San Geronio Pass Water Agency	17,300	0.00615170
Santa Clara Valley Water District	100,000	0.03555897
Solano County Water Agency	47,756	0.01698154
TOTAL	2,812,230	1.00000000