



# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER



## NOTICE OF MEETINGS

Thursday, September 24, 2009

11:00 a.m. – Watermaster Board Meeting

*(Lunch will be served)*

*AT THE CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER OFFICES*

9641 San Bernardino Road  
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730  
(909) 484-3888





# **CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER**

**Thursday, September 24, 2009**

11:00 a.m. – Watermaster Board Meeting

## **AGENDA PACKAGE**



**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
BOARD MEETING**

**WITH**

*Mr. Ken Willis, Chair*

*Mr. Bob Kuhn, Vice-Chair*

**11:00 a.m. – September 24, 2009**

**At The Offices Of**

**Chino Basin Watermaster**

9641 San Bernardino Road

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AGENDA - ADDITIONS/REORDER**

**I. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Note: All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted upon by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion on these items prior to voting unless any members, staff, or the public requests specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar for separate action.**

**A. MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the Watermaster Board Meeting held August 27, 2009 *(Page 1)*

**B. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

1. Watermaster Visa Check Detail for the month of July 2009 *(Page 9)*
2. Combining Schedule for the Period July 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009 *(Page 11)*
3. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs for the Period July 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009 *(Page 13)*
4. Budget vs. Actual July 2009 *(Page 15)*

**II. BUSINESS ITEM**

**A. COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION FOR THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA –  
POLICY POSITION**

Request for Support for Southern California Water Committee Position on the "Comprehensive Solution for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta" *(Page 17)*

Consider the Request to Have Chino Basin Watermaster Take a Position in Support of the Southern California Water Committee's Position on a "Comprehensive Solution for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta"

**III. REPORTS/UPDATES**

**A. WATERMASTER GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT**

1. Court Transition Process

**B. FINANCIAL REPORT**

1. Financial Changes
2. Assessment Package Workshop

**C. CEO/STAFF REPORT**

1. Legislative Update
2. Recharge Update
3. Watermaster Policy Manual
4. Auction Update

**IV. INFORMATION**

1. Newspaper Articles (*Page 35*)

**V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

**VII. CONFIDENTIAL SESSION - POSSIBLE ACTION**

Pursuant to Article 2.6 of the Watermaster Rules & Regulations, a Confidential Session may be held during the Watermaster committee meeting for the purpose of discussion and possible action.

**VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS**

September 22, 2009	10:00 a.m.	Water Quality Meeting @ CBWM
September 24, 2009	8:00 a.m.	IEUA Dry Year Yield Meeting @ CBWM
September 24, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting @ CBWM
September 24, 2009	11:00 a.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting @ CBWM
September 28, 2009	11:00 a.m.	Golf Tournament @ Oak Quarry
September 28, 2009	5:00 p.m.	Strategic Planning Kick-Off Reception @ Oak Quarry
September 29, 2009	7:30 a.m.	Strategic Planning Conference @ Etiwanda Gardens
<b><u>NEW CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER MEETING SCHEDULE TAKES EFFECT IN OCTOBER:</u></b>		
October 1, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Appropriative & Non-Agricultural Pool Meeting @ CBWM
October 8, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Agricultural Pool Meeting @ IEUA
October 15, 2009	8:00 a.m.	IEUA Dry Year Yield Meeting @ CBWM
October 15, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting @ CBWM
October 22, 2009	11:00 a.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting @ CBWM
October 22, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Recharge Master Plan Workshop @ CBWM

**Meeting Adjourn**



# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

## I. CONSENT CALENDAR

### A. MINUTES

1. Watermaster Board Meeting – August 27, 2009



**Draft Minutes**  
**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER**  
**WATERMASTER BOARD MEETING**

*August 27, 2009*

The Watermaster Board Meeting was held at the offices of the Chino Basin Watermaster, 9641 San Bernardino Road, Rancho Cucamonga, CA, on August 27, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.

**WATERMASTER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Ken Willis, Chair  
Don Galleano  
Jim Curatalo  
David DeJesus  
Robert Young  
Michael Camacho  
Kevin Sage  
Geoff Vanden Heuvel  
Paul Hofer

City of Upland  
Western Municipal Water District  
Cucamonga Valley Water District  
Three Valleys Municipal Water District  
Fontana Water Company  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
Vulcan Materials Company  
Agricultural Pool  
Agricultural Pool

**Watermaster Staff Present**

Kenneth R. Manning  
Sheri Rojo  
Ben Pak  
Danielle Maurizio  
Sherri Lynne Molino

Chief Executive Officer  
CFO/Asst. General Manager  
Senior Project Engineer  
Senior Engineer  
Recording Secretary

**Watermaster Consultants Present**

Scott Slater  
Michael Fife  
Mark Wildermuth

Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber & Schreck  
Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber & Schreck  
Wildermuth Environmental Inc.

**Others Present**

Bob Kuhn  
Ken Jeske  
Marv Shaw  
Scott Burton  
Marty Zvirbulis  
Mark Kinsey  
Dave Crosley  
Ron Craig  
Raul Garibay  
Eldon Horst  
Robert Tock  
Charles Moorrees  
Robert Young  
Mike McGraw  
Josh Swift  
Anthony La  
Bob Feenstra  
Jeff Pierson  
John Bosler  
Eunice Ulloa  
Terry Catlin  
Ryan Shaw  
Patrick Sheilds  
Rich Atwater

Three Valleys Municipal Water District  
City of Ontario  
City of Ontario  
City of Ontario  
Cucamonga Valley Water District  
Monte Vista Water District  
City of Chino  
City of Chino Hills  
City of Pomona  
Jurupa Community Services District  
Jurupa Community Services District  
San Antonio Water Company  
Fontana Union Water Company  
Fontana Water Company  
Fontana Water Company  
City of Upland  
Ag Pool - Dairy  
Ag Pool - Crops  
Cucamonga Valley Water District  
Chino Basin Water Conservation District  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Tom Crowley  
Doug La Belle  
Phil Rosentrater

West Valley Water District  
City of Chino Hills, Representative  
Western Municipal Water District

The Watermaster Board Meeting was called to order by Chair Willis at 11:00 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AGENDA - ADDITIONS/REORDER**

Mr. Manning stated there is a revised staff letter for Business Item IIC on the back table; this is different than the staff letter that was distributed yesterday under separate cover from the meeting packet.

**I. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the Watermaster Board Meeting on July 23, 2009
2. Minutes of the Special Watermaster Board Meeting on July 30, 2009

**B. FINANCIAL REPORTS**

1. Cash Disbursements for the month of July 2009
2. Watermaster Visa Check Detail for the month of June 2009
3. Combining Schedule for the Period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009
4. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs for the Period June 1, 2009 through June 30, 2009
5. Budget vs. Actual July 2008 through June 2009

**C. WATER TRANSACTION**

1. **Consider Approval for Notice of Sale or Transfer** – The lease and/or purchase of 765 AF from San Antonio Water Company to the City of Ontario. This lease is made first from San Antonio's net under-production in Fiscal Year 2008-09, with any remainder to be recaptured from storage. Date of application: June 30, 2009

*Motion by DeJesus, second by Camacho, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve Consent Calendar A through C, as presented***

**II. BUSINESS ITEM**

**A. NOTICE OF INTENT TO PURCHASE**

Mr. Manning stated one of the provisions of the Peace II Agreement is to provide a Notice of Intent to Purchase regarding the purchase of the 38,652 acre-feet of water from the Non-Agricultural Pool which needs to be approved prior to the actual purchase. The Notice of Intent to Purchase must be filed by December 21, 2009; the notice is dated December 18, 2009 which will allow enough time to get the process started. At the Advisory Committee meeting today there was a slight variation of this notice that was passed at that meeting; that variation was passed unanimously. There was a request made by Fontana Water Company to reconsider how the 2,652 acre-feet of water, which was noted in the staff report as being dedicated to desalter replenishment is to be allocated. The decision to use the additional acre-feet as desalter replenishment was made by the Appropriative Pool. Mr. Manning reviewed the Peace II Agreement definition of how this water can be used. Mr. Manning stated Fontana Water Company is not clear on how they would like to approach this; however, they did make a request that they have some time to consider how the 2,652 acre-feet might be applied to the current cumulative unmet replenishment obligation. Mr. Manning stated the Advisory Committee took action to approve the Notice of Intent to Purchase which will take the 36,000 acre-feet now and then next month after it is referred back to the Appropriative Pool, an action will be forwarded to the Board on their recommendation on the remaining 2,652 acre-feet. A discussion regarding this matter and a possible default plan ensued. Mr. Manning stated there is a Plan B which is being discussed right now in the event of a failed auction, that would go

ahead and pay for the water and then hold it in reserve for use for a possible future sale. A discussion regarding a special assessment ensued.

*Motion by Willis, second by Camacho, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve the Intent to Purchase to 36,000 acre-feet for use in a Storage and Recovery Agreement, and refer the 2,652 acre-feet back to the Appropriative Pool for further consideration and a separate motion, as presented***

**B. DYY EXTENSION**

Mr. Manning discussed the action that is being proposed today and he stated there is a current 100,000 acre-foot Dry Year Yield Program agreement with Metropolitan Water District (MWD). An expansion of that DYY program to 150,000 acre feet is being negotiated and an agreement was signed by the three municipal water districts and the CDA which will expand that program to 150,000 acre-feet. Part of that 150,000 acre-foot deal point was a zeroing of losses for MWD going back to September 1, 2007 and this is a very important provision for MWD. In turn for this provision MWD has agreed to provide to the CDA an LRP subsidy of \$250.00 an acre-foot that is applied to the water produced to the CDA; this provision is still in place. In May, 2009, this item was placed on the Appropriative Pool agenda; however, at that meeting there was another proposal presented by the Cucamonga Valley Water District. Due to that proposal this item was placed on hold to allow meetings to take place with MWD staff; those discussions have been continuing for several months. Mr. Manning stated there is a deadline of September 1, 2009 for this agreement whereby Watermaster has to take action. For clarification Counsel Slater stated the parties are not waiving the losses, they would be assigning a responsibility for those losses to other members of the Judgment; you are not assuming an unmet replenishment obligation because it will be distributed amongst members. Counsel Slater noted what is being told to MWD is that even though there is a loss; the members will not be financially responsible for covering it. A lengthy discussion regarding this item and especially losses ensued. Counsel Slater stated the motion that is being recommended is to assign the uniform loss and then redistribute the obligation for that to other stakeholders. Mr. Vanden Heuvel stated the uniform loss rate by default is 2% will be charged against the MWD account; however, it will be made whole by allocating that loss to the other Appropriators. Mr. Vanden Heuvel inquired about the work being done by Wildermuth Environmental on the 2% loss figure. Mr. Wildermuth stated a presentation was brought through the Watermaster process which validated the 2%.

*Motion by DeJesus, second by Curatalo, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve the language described by Counsel Slater stating the approval by the Appropriative Pool under the section 2(b) shall occur prior to or simultaneous with the approval of an amendment to agreement 49960 as described in section 2a of the staff report and then the remainder of the language written in the staff report , as presented***

**C. ACWA COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT NOMINEES FOR 2010-2011 TERM**

Mr. Manning explained this item in detail.

*No motion was made regarding this item.*

**D. REGION 9 ELECTION FOR THE 2010-2011 TERM**

Mr. Manning explained this item in detail. A brief discussion regarding this matter ensued.

*Motion by Vanden Heuvel, second by Willis, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve the slate, as presented***

**E. NWRA ELECTION**

Mr. Manning explained this item in detail.

*No motion was made regarding this item.*



**F. CalPERS SERVICE CREDIT PURCHASE**

Mr. Manning noted this item is the final task for the action taken by this Board regarding Watermaster employees purchasing CalPERS service credit. Ms. Rojo offered further information on this item and noted there will be no cost to Chino Basin Watermaster.

*Motion by Young, second by DeJesus, and by unanimous vote*

***Moved to approve the CalPERS Service Credit Purchase at no cost to Chino Basin Watermaster, as presented***

**III. REPORTS/UPDATES****A. WATERMASTER GENERAL LEGAL COUNSEL REPORT****1. August 11, 2009 Hearing**

Counsel Slater stated what a pleasure it has been to have Judge Wade overseeing Watermaster's affairs. Counsel Slater stated the August 11, 2009 hearing took place and went well. The hearing provided a status report of the OBMP, Program Elements 7, 8, and 9, and the approval of the Watermaster's motion to approve the template Storage & Recovery Agreement. A proposed order was submitted which was worked out in advance and the judge signed the revised order as submitted. Notice was provided to the parties. Counsel Slater stated a few items were discussed at the hearing regarding Judge Wade's retirement and the transition process into another judge. Counsel Slater commented on Judge Wade's recommendations for the new judge transition and noted there is a letter on the back table from counsel to the presiding judge. This letter has not been sent and is for review only and it will be sent to the parties' legal counselors. Once all the parties are in agreement of sending a letter out and the content of the letter it will be sent out. Counsel Slater stated the other item on the back table is a proposed case management order and this order is also something that has not been sent out and is for review. Counsel Slater offered comment on the proposed case management order and how it will work with Judge Wade. Counsel Slater stated there is another hearing scheduled for September 17, 2009 if it is needed and can be cancelled if it is not needed. Counsel Slater noted comments need to be back by next Thursday so that they can be filed with the court in a timely manner.

**2. Auction Update**

Counsel Slater handed out a proposed internal calendar for the water auction and offered comment on it. Counsel Slater stated since this auction is on such a tight time frame an auction update will be kept on all the agendas so the parties know what is happening. FTI was hired and there was a workshop with FTI to demonstrate how the auction will proceed. A due diligence package and marketing materials are now being put together that can be sent out to potential bidders. A strategy is being worked on as to how to go implement the marketing of the auction with FTI. Staff is looking at the auction being held on November 4, 2009. Mr. Manning offered comment on possible potential bidders and what the due diligence package will look like. Mr. Manning stated at the next Appropriative Pool meeting which will be held next Thursday, Watermaster staff, counsel, and consultants are going to give a presentation to go through the marketing plan along with many of the details on how the auction will be proceeding. A discussion regarding the November 4<sup>th</sup> auction date and what the promotion of the auction might look like ensued. Counsel Slater offered comment on the possible bidding parties and market segments.

**3. MOU Development**

No comment was made regarding this item.

**B. FINANCIAL REPORT****1. Year End Project/Budget Update**

Ms. Rojo advised the pools that all Water Activity Reports have been sent out and some have already been received. We are looking to receive all of the Water Activity Reports by

the end of the week. Ms. Rojo stated the assessment package workshop has now been scheduled for September 9, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.

2. Year End Audit Update

Ms. Rojo stated that Watermaster's fiscal year ended June 30, 2009 and our annual audit has been completed for the field work and the audit will be completed at their office shortly. If anyone has any questions or issues regarding Watermaster's financial activities, please see Ken Manning or feel free to contact the auditors directly.

**C. ENGINEERING REPORT**

Mr. Wildermuth stated Wildermuth Environmental staff is working diligently on the Recharge Master Plan. A meeting with Black & Veatch took place last month to go over a plethora of supplemental water recharge projects and those will be brought back through the Watermaster process in September. Mr. Wildermuth stated with regard to the modeling work that has been being worked on to optimize recharge and pumping is almost complete. A new Material Physical Injury report has been created for Peace II so that it could be used in CEQA. A lengthy discussion regarding Mr. Wildermuth's comments ensued. Concerns regarding purchasers following Watermaster's rules regarding export were expressed and discussed.

1. Balance of Recharge & Discharge Discussion

Mr. Wildermuth stated Watermaster is obligated to do the balance of recharge and discharge report every other year and Wildermuth staff will be working with Watermaster staff on trying to get a memo distributed for discussion next month. Mr. Wildermuth noted after discussions have taken place and any changes that need to be made are done, it will then be finalized. Mr. Wildermuth stated Watermaster has complete control and discretion on supplemental recharge in the Chino Basin pursuant to the Peace Agreement and there are certain issues in the Peace Agreement that Watermaster has to contend with. One of those issues is the 6,500 acre-foot MZ1 recharge commitment every year. That amount accrues annually if it is not satisfied in MZ1 area; then the balance of recharge and discharge has to be done after that.

Mr. Wildermuth stated Wildermuth Environmental produced Task 5 memorandum which talked about the projected groundwater production in the basin using the parties' projections from last year. Those projections have been analyzed to figure out what the replenishment requirements are going to be under various scenarios, including the recharge of recycled water. The last version was produced in April and it has subsequently been modified but did not get reprinted. Comments have been received from Inland Empire Utilities Agency in July from the April release and now that those have been received staff will be working to complete this task. A discussion on Mr. Wildermuth's report ensued.

**D. CEO/STAFF REPORT**

1. Legislative Update

Chair Willis stated many parties will be interested in hearing about AB1366. Mr. Manning stated AB1366 is going to the senate next week. Mr. Manning stated now that the state budget has been approved, it appears there is certain consensus that the water issues are taking front and center stage in Sacramento. There are five separate bills that have been developed as part of a master water plan to resolve Delta issues and water problems in the State of California. Those five bills are being reviewed starting next week with a joint committee meeting between the assembly and senate. This first meeting will be the start of a series of meetings and will take approximately four weeks to resolve. There are still discussions on what the joint committee will look like in terms of who will sit on the committee.

Mr. Manning stated he had an opportunity to meet face-to-face with former Senator Mike Machado and Tom Zukerman who represent interests in the Delta. Mr. Manning commented on the topics discussed at that meeting.

2. Recharge Update

Mr. Manning stated the most recent recharge update is available on the back table. Mr. Manning reviewed the current recharge numbers.

3. Strategic Planning Conference

Mr. Manning stated the Watermaster's next Strategic Planning Conference is filling up quickly and reminded the parties to get in their registration forms. Mr. Manning stated there will be a golf tournament the first day with kick-off reception following, as done in past years and then a full day meeting the following day. The golf tournament and reception will be held at Oak Quarry Golf Course in Riverside and the conference at Etiwanda Gardens which is where it was held two years ago.

4. Watermaster Meeting Date Changes

Mr. Manning stated there has been a lot of discussion amongst the Appropriative Pool members over the last nine months and noted some members have been meeting informally. Those informal meetings have been to discuss ways that might help improve Watermaster efficiencies. One of the recommendations was for Watermaster staff and the parties to look at meeting date changes to allow more time between meetings. This will allow for meeting packages to be progressive and reflect the actions taken at the previous Pools or Advisory Committee meetings. Mr. Manning stated the Appropriative and Non-Agricultural Pool took action to change their meetings to the first Thursday of every month starting in September at 1:00 p.m. The Agricultural Pool took action to change their meetings to the second Thursday of every month starting in October at 9:00 a.m. and still at the IEUA office. The Advisory Committee took action to change their meeting to the third Thursday of every month at 9:00 a.m. and then this Board will leave its meeting on the fourth Thursday of every month at 11:00 a.m. These changes will allow one week between each of the meetings. Mr. Manning noted some dates will be changed due to holiday schedules which are coming up shortly.

**IV. INFORMATION**

1. Newspaper Articles

No comment was made regarding this item.

**V. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Hofer inquired if any of the information regarding the auction is confidential as it occurs. Counsel Slater stated everything is open to public scrutiny and is completely transparent. Mr. Hofer inquired if there will be a dedicated website for the water auction. Mr. Manning stated there will be a dedicated website and a link directing you to that website will be on Watermaster's current website. A discussion regarding bidders' confidentiality ensued. Counsel Slater offered comment on the auction process, potential bidders, and the on-line bidding process.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

No comment was made regarding this item.

**VII. CONFIDENTIAL SESSION - POSSIBLE ACTION**

Pursuant to Article 2.6 of the Watermaster Rules & Regulations, a Confidential Session may be held during the Watermaster committee meeting for the purpose of discussion and possible action.

No confidential session was called.

**VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS**

August 27, 2009	8:00 a.m.	IEUA Dry Year Yield Meeting @ CBWM
August 27, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting @ CBWM
August 27, 2009	11:00 a.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting @ CBWM
September 3, 2009	1:00 p.m.	Appropriative & Non-Agricultural Pool Meeting @ CBWM
September 10, 2009	9:00 a.m.	MZ1 Technical Committee Meeting @ CBWM
September 15, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Agricultural Pool Meeting @ IEUA
September 17, 2009	9:30 a.m.	Tentative CBWM Hearing @ San Bernardino Court
September 24, 2009	8:00 a.m.	IEUA Dry Year Yield Meeting @ CBWM
September 24, 2009	9:00 a.m.	Advisory Committee Meeting @ CBWM
September 24, 2009	11:00 a.m.	Watermaster Board Meeting @ CBWM

The Watermaster Board meeting was dismissed by Chair Willis at 12:15 p.m.

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

## I. CONSENT CALENDAR

### B. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Watermaster Visa Check Detail for the month of July 2009
2. Combining Schedule of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Working Capital for the Period July 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009
3. Treasurer's Report of Financial Affairs for the Period July 1, 2009 through July 31, 2009
4. Budget vs. Actual July 2009



10:10 AM  
08/28/09

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

Check Detail  
July 2009

Type	Num	Date	Name	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	13436	7/21/2009	BANK OF AMER...	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	4024...	6/30/2009		6909.1 · OBMP Meetings	-1,112.55
				6175 · Vehicle Fuel	-37.57
				6312 · Meeting Expenses	-46.47
TOTAL					-1,196.59

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CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
 COMBINING SCHEDULE OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN WORKING CAPITAL  
 FOR THE  
 PERIOD JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JULY 31, 2009

	WATERMASTER ADMINISTRATION	BASIN MANAGEMENT	POOL	POOL	POOL	NON-AGRIC. REPLENISHMENT	GROUNDWATER OPERATIONS	EDUCATION FUNDS	GRAND TOTALS
Administrative Revenues									
Administrative Assessments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mutual Agency Project Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grant Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Income	111,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	111,000
Total Revenues	<u>111,000</u>								<u>111,000</u>
Administrative & Project Expenditures									
Watermaster Administration	25,267								25,267
Watermaster Board-Advisory Committee	6,292								6,292
Pool Administration		3,233	9,608	692					13,533
Optimum Basin Mgmt Administration		147,807							147,807
OBMP Project Costs		209,436							209,436
Debt Service									
Education Funds Use									
Mutual Agency Project Costs									
Total Administrative/OBMP Expenses	<u>31,559</u>	<u>357,243</u>	<u>9,608</u>	<u>692</u>					<u>402,335</u>
Net Administrative/OBMP Expenses	<u>79,441</u>	<u>(357,243)</u>							
Allocate Net Admin Expenses To Pools		(59,585)	(17,868)	(1,988)					
Allocate Net OBMP Expenses To Pools		366,150	80,350	(89,257)					
Allocate Debt Service to App Pool									
Agricultural Expense Transfer*		72,090	(72,090)						
Total Expenses	<u>381,889</u>	<u>(90,554)</u>							<u>402,335</u>
Net Administrative Income	<u>(381,889)</u>	<u>90,554</u>							<u>(291,335)</u>
Other Income/(Expense)									
Replenishment Water Assessments									
Interest Revenue									
Water Purchases									
Balance Adjustment						(1,003,000)			(1,003,000)
Groundwater Replenishment						(1,003,000)			(1,003,000)
Net Other Income									
Net Transfers To/(From) Reserves		(1,294,335)		90,554		(1,003,000)			(1,294,335)

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**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
TREASURER'S REPORT OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS FOR THE PERIOD  
JULY 1 THROUGH JULY 31, 2009**

**DEPOSITORIES:**

Cash on Hand - Petty Cash		\$ 500
Bank of America		
Governmental Checking-Demand Deposits	\$ 944,795	
Zero Balance Account - Payroll		
Local Agency Investment Fund - Sacramento		10,394,199
<b>TOTAL CASH IN BANKS AND ON HAND</b>	<b>7/31/2009</b>	<b>\$ 11,339,494</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH IN BANKS AND ON HAND</b>	<b>6/30/2009</b>	<b>11,365,542</b>
<b>PERIOD INCREASE (DECREASE)</b>		<b>\$ (26,048)</b>

**CHANGE IN CASH POSITION DUE TO:**

Decrease/(Increase) in Assets:		
Accounts Receivable		143,051
Assessments Receivable		(5,495)
Prepaid Expenses, Deposits & Other Current Assets		1,161,047
Accounts Payable		(30,316)
Accrued Payroll, Payroll Taxes & Other Current Liabilities		(1,294,335)
Transfer to/(from) Reserves		
<b>PERIOD INCREASE (DECREASE)</b>		<b>\$ (26,048)</b>

**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS:**

	Petty Cash	Gov't'l Checking Demand	Zero Balance Account Payroll	Local Agency Investment Funds	Totals	
Balances as of 6/30/2009	\$ 500	\$ 470,843	\$ -	\$ 10,894,199	\$ 11,365,542	
Deposits	-	254,361	-	-	254,361	
Transfers	-	394,650	105,350	(500,000)	-	
Withdrawals/Checks	-	(175,059)	(105,350)	-	(280,409)	
Balances as of 7/31/2009	\$ 500	\$ 944,795	\$ -	\$ 10,394,199	\$ 11,339,494	
<b>PERIOD INCREASE OR (DECREASE)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 473,952</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ (500,000)</b>	<b>\$ (26,048)</b>	

**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
TREASURER'S REPORT OF FINANCIAL AFFAIRS FOR THE PERIOD  
JULY 1 THROUGH JULY 31, 2009**

**INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS**

Effective Date	Transaction	Depository	Activity	Redeemed	Days to Maturity	Interest Rate(*)	Maturity Yield
7/24/2009	Withdrawal	L.A.I.F.	\$ (500,000)				
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS</b>			<b>\$ (500,000)</b>				

\* The earnings rate for L.A.I.F. is a daily variable rate; 1.51% was the effective yield rate at the Quarter ended June 30, 2009.

**INVESTMENT STATUS  
July 31, 2009**

Financial Institution	Principal Amount	Number of Days	Interest Rate	Maturity Date
Local Agency Investment Fund	\$ 10,394,199			
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 10,394,199</b>			

Funds on hand are sufficient to meet all foreseen and planned Administrative and project expenditures during the next six months.

All investment transactions have been executed in accordance with the criteria stated in Chino Basin Watermaster's Investment Policy.

Respectfully submitted,  


Sheri M. Rojo, CPA  
 Chief Financial Officer & Assistant General Manager  
 Chino Basin Watermaster

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
July 2009

	<u>Jul 09</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
4010 · Local Agency Subsidies		148,410	-148,410	
4110 · Admin Asmnts-Approp Pool		7,185,411	-7,185,411	
4120 · Admin Asmnts-Non-Agri Pool		155,427	-155,427	
4700 · Non Operating Revenues		191,540	-191,540	
4900 · Miscellaneous income	111,000			
Total Income	<u>111,000</u>	<u>7,680,788</u>	<u>-7,569,788</u>	<u>1%</u>
Gross Profit	111,000	7,680,788	-7,569,788	1%
Expense				
6010 · Salary Costs	35,300	487,838	-452,538	7%
6020 · Office Building Expense	1,781	102,500	-100,719	2%
6030 · Office Supplies & Equip.	1,122	43,500	-42,378	3%
6040 · Postage & Printing Costs	4,950	84,300	-79,350	6%
6050 · Information Services	13,571	148,500	-134,929	9%
6060 · Contract Services		98,000	-98,000	0%
6080 · Insurance	15,934	16,730	-796	95%
6110 · Dues and Subscriptions	46	17,000	-16,954	0%
6140 · WM Admin Expenses		3,000	-3,000	0%
6150 · Field Supplies		2,800	-2,800	0%
6170 · Travel & Transportation	2,547	37,800	-35,253	7%
6190 · Conferences & Seminars	540	26,500	-25,960	2%
6200 · Advisory Comm - WM Board	1,743	18,078	-16,335	10%
6300 · Watermaster Board Expenses	4,549	43,823	-39,274	10%
8300 · Appr PI-WM & Pool Admin	3,233	23,069	-19,836	14%
8400 · Agri Pool-WM & Pool Admin	2,434	25,114	-22,680	10%
8467 · Ag Legal & Technical Services	7,174	98,000	-90,826	7%
8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special		12,000	-12,000	0%
8471 · Ag Pool Expense		65,000	-65,000	0%
8500 · Non-Ag PI-WM & Pool Admin	692	6,677	-5,985	10%
6500 · Education Funds Use Expens		375	-375	0%
9500 · Allocated G&A Expenditures	<u>-50,524</u>	<u>-488,230</u>	<u>437,706</u>	<u>10%</u>
Subtotal G&A Expenditures	45,092	872,374	-827,282	5%
6900 · Optimum Basin Mgmt Plan	135,556	1,399,371	-1,263,815	10%
6950 · Mutual Agency Projects		10,000	-10,000	0%
9501 · G&A Expenses Allocated-OBMP	<u>12,251</u>	<u>148,448</u>	<u>-136,197</u>	<u>8%</u>
Subtotal OBMP Expenditures	147,807	1,557,819	-1,410,012	9%
7101 · Production Monitoring	18,174	107,047	-88,873	17%
7102 · In-line Meter Installation	3,974	56,179	-52,205	7%
7103 · Grdwtr Quality Monitoring	21,268	214,362	-193,094	10%

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
 Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
 July 2009

	<u>Jul 09</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
7104 · Gdwtr Level Monitoring	44,020	366,956	-322,936	12%
7105 · Sur Wtr Qual Monitoring	434	43,912	-43,478	1%
7107 · Ground Level Monitoring	1,544	550,059	-548,515	0%
7108 · Hydraulic Control Monitoring	28,990	567,022	-538,032	5%
7109 · Recharge & Well Monitoring Prog		9,152	-9,152	0%
7200 · PE2- Comp Recharge Pgm	119,289	1,478,560	-1,359,271	8%
7300 · PE3&5-Water Supply/Desalte	4,783	96,003	-91,220	5%
7400 · PE4- Mgmt Plan	2,878	91,985	-89,107	3%
7500 · PE6&7-CoopEfforts/SaltMgmt	13,448	163,727	-150,279	8%
7600 · PE8&9-StorageMgmt/Conj Use	8,424	29,550	-21,126	29%
7690 · Recharge Improvement Debt Pymt	-96,063	1,131,233	-1,227,296	-8%
7700 · Inactive Well Protection Prgm		5,066	-5,066	0%
9502 · G&A Expenses Allocated-Projects	38,273	339,782	-301,509	11%
Subtotal Special Project Expenditures	209,436	5,250,595	-5,041,159	4%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>402,335</u>	<u>7,680,788</u>	<u>-7,278,453</u>	<u>5%</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-291,335	0	-291,335	100%
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Other Expense</b>				
5100 · Other Water Purchases	1,003,000			
9999 · To/(From) Reserves	-1,294,335			
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>-291,335</u>			
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>291,335</u>			
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	<u>0%</u>



# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

## II. BUSINESS ITEM

### A. COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION FOR THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA – POLICY POSITION





# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

9641 San Bernardino Road, Rancho Cucamonga, Ca 91730  
Tel: 909.484.3888 Fax: 909.484.3890 www.cbwm.org

**KENNETH R. MANNING**  
Chief Executive Officer

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** September 24, 2009

**TO:** Watermaster Board Members

**SUBJECT:** Consider the request for Chino Basin Watermaster to take a support position for the Southern California Water Committee's "Comprehensive Solution for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta"

### **SUMMARY:**

#### ***Issue –***

At the request of a member of the Watermaster Board, the Southern California Water Committee has forwarded to Chino Basin Watermaster a request to support their position on the "Comprehensive Solution for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta"

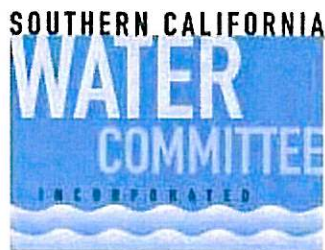
#### ***Background –***

The legislature is currently considering a suit of bills aimed at solving the water reliability issue within the Delta. The bills cover a variety of areas including conservation, governance and environmental concerns within the Delta. The Southern California Water Committee, a nonprofit, nonpartisan, public education partnership made up of water interests, business and government, has developed a "Policy Position" that urges the legislature and the governor to develop a comprehensive solution to resolve the Delta's chronic water supply and environmental problems. The Policy Position states that solution must include implementation of a new isolated conveyance system.

***Fiscal Impact – None***



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## **COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION FOR THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA -POLICY POSITION -**

### **Background**

The sustainability of California's economy, the eighth largest in the world, depends upon a reliable source of water. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) is the hub of our state's water delivery system and home to one of California's most important ecosystems. Twenty-five million Californians — nearly two-thirds of the state's population — and millions of acres of farmland rely on water that passes through the Delta. The survival of many endangered species depends on the habitat of the Delta.

As fish populations have declined, new regulations have constricted the Delta's water delivery system. The growing crisis poses the threat of statewide economic and ecologic disaster. Disruptions of water supplies funneling through the Delta are heightened by California's continuing drought and regulatory restrictions.

California must take decisive action to solve these chronic problems and avoid the Delta's continuing deterioration as a reliable pathway for water. Governor Schwarzenegger agrees, "In California, water is essential to our jobs, our schools, our families, our environment and our economy. With a drought, court-ordered water restrictions and an increasing population, the time for action is now. Making sure Californians have the water we need to keep our economy strong and our people working has never been more critical."

### **Preferred Policy Solutions**

A comprehensive solution to resolve the Delta's chronic water supply and environmental problems must include implementation of water conveyance improvements. Currently, water supplies flow through the Delta in directions and times of year that are not natural. We need to build a conveyance system that moves water supplies through and around the Delta. A new isolated conveyance system will allow for more flexibility in water management, protection against disasters such as earthquakes or floods and greater protection for fish.

- more -

While structural fixes to our water supply needs are critical, water conservation and water use efficiency are also central elements. Governor Schwarzenegger has set a statewide goal to reduce per capita water use of 20 percent by 2020. Achieving this goal will require a comprehensive, statewide and equitable approach. Putting California on the path toward reliable water supplies includes restoring the Delta and expanding our local water supplies.

### **Planning, Education & Action**

The [Bay Delta Conservation Plan](#) is a planning and environmental permitting process to restore habitat for Delta fisheries in a way that reliably delivers water supplies to 25 million Californians. Federal and state agencies, environmental organizations, fishery agencies, water agencies, and other organizations are all working together to develop this plan now.

We need to express to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Secretary of Natural Resources Mike Chrisman and members of the State Legislature that action is required now. By 2010, California needs to approve a plan that will restore both the Delta's ecosystem and the reliability of the water supplies that underpin the entire economy.

### **About SCWC**

Established in 1984, the Southern California Water Committee (SCWC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, public education partnership dedicated to informing Southern Californians about our water needs and our state's water resources, widely recognized as one of the region's most respected voices on water policy. Spanning Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Imperial, Riverside, Ventura and Kern Counties, the SCWC's members include representatives from business, government, agriculture, water agencies and the general public.

For more information on the SCWC and how to support this Delta policy position, please visit [www.socalwater.org](http://www.socalwater.org).

###



**COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION FOR THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA  
-ORGANIZATION SUPPORTER FORM-**

The sustainability of California's economy, the eighth largest in the world, depends upon a reliable source of water. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) is the hub of our state's water delivery system and home to one of California's most important ecosystems. Twenty-five million Californians, millions of acres of farmland and many endangered species depend on water that flows through the Delta.

The Delta is in crisis though and, as it worsens, the threat of statewide economic and ecologic disaster increases. California must take decisive action to solve the Delta's chronic problems and avoid the Delta's continuing deterioration as a reliable pathway for water.

We support a comprehensive Delta solution, which includes restoring critical Delta habitat and constructing a new conveyance facility for fresh water supplies. You may list our organization publicly as a supporter of the Southern California Water Committee's policy position on the Delta:

We are a:  Group or Organization  Business  Labor Union  Water Agency  Govt.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of organization or business

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of person signing (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of person signing

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Please check this box if the authorizing signer can also be listed as an individual supporter, along with his/her official organizational title (e.g., John Doe, President of the XYZ Association).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact person for your business/organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime phone number of contact person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address of contact person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax number of contact person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing address of contact person

\_\_\_\_\_  
If a group, how many members do you have?

\_\_\_\_\_  
If a business, how many employees do you have?

**Please fax this completed form to: (818) 760-2202. If you have questions, please call 818-760-2121 or visit [www.socalwater.org](http://www.socalwater.org).**

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E-Newsletter  
August 25, 2009

## **Southern California Water Committee Renews Its Focus on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Crisis**

You are reading the Southern California Water Committee's (SCWC) first-ever e-newsletter! In the coming months, we will be keeping you informed about significant developments on water issues affecting the state of California.

We are at a critical juncture for the future of the Delta and our water supply. The crisis in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Delta) has pushed water to the political forefront in Sacramento. Twenty-five million Californians - nearly two-thirds of the state's population - and millions of acres of farmland rely on water that passes through the Delta. The survival of many endangered species depends on its habitat.

SCWC believes the solution to the Delta crisis relies on both alternate conveyance and habitat restoration. SCWC's recent [organizational restructuring](#) has us ready to take the issue head-on. We look forward to sharing important updates with you over the coming months!

---

## **Bay Delta Conservation Plan Is Solution Path**

The [Bay Delta Conservation Plan](#), the path forward for a comprehensive Delta fix, is a major focus of the SCWC. This planning and environmental permitting effort is being developed jointly by water providers, environmentalists, state and federal wildlife officials and stakeholders in the Delta. It will enable water providers to make adequate and reliable water deliveries to the public while protecting and restoring the Delta environment. We encourage our SCWC members and all stakeholders to get educated and become involved in the BDCP's important planning process.

---

## **Support SCWC's Delta Policy Position**

The SCWC recently distributed an updated [policy position](#) on the Delta, calling for a comprehensive fix that includes both ecosystem restoration and new conveyance through and around the Delta. We encourage your organization to review the policy position and sign on as a [supporter](#). Many organizations throughout California are already supporting a comprehensive Delta fix, including the construction of new conveyance facilities, and we'd like to inventory and publish that support to help educate legislators, stakeholders and news media.

---

## Legislative Water Hearings

On August 18, a joint hearing of the Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife and Senate Natural Resources and Water committees was held in Sacramento to discuss the 2009 proposed Delta/water legislation. While we are pleased to see our State Legislature focused on the crisis, many of the specifics within the package, as currently drafted, would impede California's ability to meet the water supply reliability component of the co-equal goals. The SCWC signed onto a [coalition letter](#) that was delivered to the Governor and Legislature about these concerns and our Legislative Task Force continues to monitor and update our membership on a weekly basis.

In addition, the [Association of California Water Agencies](#) and [Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger](#) issued letters providing reaction and feedback to legislative leaders, urging them to take decisive action on the Delta. Additional hearings are slated for August 25, 26 and 27 to discuss the Delta-specific and non-Delta water bills, respectively.

---

## Editorial Support for Delta Fix/New Conveyance Mounting

In addition to organizations taking policy positions, editorial boards around the state are increasingly voicing support for a comprehensive Delta fix that includes new conveyance facilities. They currently include the *Contra Costa Times*, *Bakersfield Californian*, *Riverside Press-Enterprise*, *Inland Valley Daily Bulletin*, *North County Times*, *Roseville Press Democrat*, *San Bernardino Sun*, *San Diego Union-Tribune* and the *Torrance Daily Breeze*, just to name a few.

“The state should start by finding a way to channel water around the delta, which would keep the much-needed supplies flowing south. And that step would let the state address the environmental needs without those steps affecting water exports. Preserving the status quo is not a realistic option; neither is cutting off water exports to the rest of the state.”

Water Trauma

[Riverside Press-Enterprise, August 21, 2009](#)

---

## Save the Date for Our 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner – Become an SCWC Member!

Many of you have attended SCWC's Annual Dinner and we appreciate the support. Please save the date for this year's event – October 22, 2009. We'll be at an exciting new location this year, the Pacific Palms Resort in the City of Industry. Look for an event invitation and sponsorship opportunities shortly.

You can also become a [member](#) of SCWC. Help us in our mission to educate Californians about our water supply challenges and potential solutions.

---

## **About SCWC**

Established in 1984, the Southern California Water Committee is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, public education partnership dedicated to informing Southern Californians about our water needs and our state's water resources. Spanning Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Imperial, Riverside, Ventura and Kern Counties, the SCWC's members include representatives from business, government, agriculture, water agencies, and the general public. Visit us at [www.socalwater.org](http://www.socalwater.org) and find us on [Facebook](#).



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September 3, 2009

Senate President Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 205  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Speaker Karen Bass  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 219  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Dennis Hollingsworth  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 305  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Member Sam Blakeslee  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 3104  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Legislative Leadership:

As efforts advance to craft a legislative package to address the worsening environmental and water crisis in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California would like to share its sense of the key issues and priorities that have emerged from recent informational hearings on the five "preprints" introduced by members of the Senate and Assembly and the amendments proposed for the five-bill package in conference committee.

Metropolitan is committed to working closely and constructively with you in search of a comprehensive, bipartisan solution this year. A healthy economy will depend on a reliable water supply from the Delta. The worsening crisis that faces the Delta ecosystem and hub of the statewide water system demands nothing short of bold and decisive action.

Recent joint hearings by the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee and Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee were valuable in distilling the remaining issues for resolution in the days ahead. The recommendations on the attachment represent Metropolitan's assessment of the key outstanding matters for our six-county service area and 19 million residents.

In summary, while Metropolitan is pleased with visible signs of progress in the recent round of "pre-print" versions compared to earlier drafts, there is considerable work ahead on a number of important issues in order to create a package which solves the real problems in the Delta and does not inadvertently create new ones.

Metropolitan hopes to be active and constructive participants in this process to ensure that the result is a recovering Delta ecosystem and an improved water system while recognizing and advancing the needs of the local communities. Metropolitan looks forward to working

Delta Legislative Package  
Page 2  
September 3, 2009

constructively with you in the days ahead to take advantage of this historic opportunity and approve a package of Delta legislation that will set a new course for the Delta estuary and statewide water policy.

If you have any questions or wish additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Kathleen Cole, Metropolitan's legislative representative, at (916) 650-2600 or by email at [kcole@mwdh2o.com](mailto:kcole@mwdh2o.com).

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Kightlinger  
General Manager

cc: Members of the California Legislature

Kip Lipper, Policy Consultant, Office of the Senate President pro Tem  
William Craven, Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
Dennis O'Connor, Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
Greg Hurner, Deputy Caucus Chief of Staff, Office of Senator Dennis Hollingsworth  
Steve McCarthy, Senate Republican Caucus

Jennifer Galehouse, Policy Unit, Office of the Speaker  
Alf Brandt, Consultant, Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee  
Kate Williams, Principal Consultant, Office of Assembly Member Jared Huffman  
Doug Haaland, Assembly Republican Caucus

John Moffatt, Chief Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor  
Secretary Mike Chrisman, Natural Resources Agency  
Lester Snow, Director, Dept. of Water Resources

## **Delta Legislative Package Outstanding Issues**

### **Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP)**

This ongoing effort by state and federal agencies, with the support of key environmental groups and water districts, is the foundation to identify a long-term package of water system and ecosystem improvements for the Delta. A Delta legislative package to encourage the success of BDCP must:

- Direct the new Delta Stewardship Council to automatically include BDCP into a new, comprehensive Delta Plan if BDCP meets the highest standard of environmental protection in the state called for in the Natural Communities Conservation Planning (NCCP) Act.

### **Delta Stewardship Council**

Metropolitan supports the creation of a Delta Stewardship Council and direction that the Council prepares a comprehensive Delta Plan that will serve as a guidepost for actions of local, regional and state agencies. To ensure a successful council, the legislation must:

- Specify a Council composition that reflects the statewide significance of the Delta.
- Create a planning and coordinating entity, not a new entity that either duplicates or assumes authorities of state agencies and departments with vital roles in the Delta.
- Provide flexibility for the Council to ultimately choose the best option/mechanism for coordinating with federal agencies with jurisdiction and responsibilities in the Delta.
- Prepare a Delta Plan based on the co-equal goals (ecosystem restoration and water supply reliability) that is a clear and sound direction for state policy and which does not create an “open door” for the courts to reinterpret water rights or state authorities.
- Establish a three-step “consistency review” process for the Council’s new Delta Plan:
  1. State agencies should be required to review and certify that a defined set of actions are consistent with the Delta Plan;
  2. Individuals and stakeholders should have the latitude to challenge an agency certification to the Council; and
  3. The Council should have the authority to, by majority vote, remand those decisions back to the agencies.

### **Delta Flow Needs**

Metropolitan recognizes the importance of establishing new flow requirements for the Delta as a key element of improving the water conveyance system and addressing the health of the estuary. Legislation must:

- Support the plan by state and federal wildlife agencies to study future flow needs for the Delta as part of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and adjust flows based upon the specific habitat/conveyance plan that BDCP will produce.
- Support the Delta Strategic Plan undertaken by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), which calls for reviewing new flow regimes and using the SWRCB plan as the foundation for its hearing process.
- Support the existing SWRCB process to enact new flow requirements on specific parties or actions.
- Maintain a balanced approach by the SWRCB to review environmental objectives with beneficial uses of water.

### **“Watermaster”**

Metropolitan supports designating an agent of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) with the responsibility of monitoring compliance with water right permits, wastewater discharge permits and all matters within the SWRCB’s legal authority. The “watermaster” component is a new and important extension of the SWRCB’s policing power that requires careful attention when defining the scope, authority and process for resolving matters of compliance. The Legislature must:

- Clarify the bill language to strictly define the watermaster’s role as an agent of the SWRCB rather than an independent arbiter outside the SWRCB’s established resolution processes.
- Confine the watermaster’s role to the legal jurisdiction of the SWRCB (e.g. water rights, water quality, etc.) as opposed to enforcement of other state statutes (e.g. California Endangered Species Act) that are under the jurisdiction of other state agencies.

### **“Reduce Dependence on Delta”**

Metropolitan’s existing long-term water management plan does NOT call for additional baseline supplies from the Delta but instead relies on investments in conservation, recycling and other demand/supply strategies. These strategies do assume, however, there is a supply from the Delta that is, on average, comparable to traditional deliveries. To define this goal for a state that faces population growth and growing supply demands, the Legislature must:

- Recognize that reducing dependence on the Delta can be achieved by maintaining traditional deliveries from the estuary while meeting new demands through conservation and new, alternative supplies.

- Recognize that certain hydrologic areas have fewer options to reduce dependence through new supplies.

### **Finance**

Metropolitan has supported efforts by members of the Legislature and Governor Schwarzenegger to authorize a water bond on a future ballot. Metropolitan and other contractors for water from the State Water Project and federal Central Valley Project stand ready to invest billions of their own funds for necessary water system and ecosystem improvements in the Delta. These investments will need matching public funds in order to achieve the broader public objectives of ecosystem recovery and economic vitality in this important region. Legislation to identify financing mechanisms must:

- Identify the public funds necessary to implement broader public benefits within the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) that meets the “gold standard” of a Natural Communities Conservation Plan.
- Reflect the timing of funding needs for major capital projects such as surface storage.

### **Near-Term Actions**

Metropolitan has proposed a list of specific actions and studies that can be implemented in the interim to help stabilize conditions while a longer-term Delta Plan is developed by the Council (see attached).

### **Water Use Efficiency**

Metropolitan continues to support legislation to advance the call for 20% efficiency in water use by 2020. AB 49 identifies a workable, quantifiable method for improving water use efficiency on a statewide basis. This measure is an important step forward in addressing the need to lower per-capita water use throughout the state. Additionally, the measure provides a flexible framework for urban retail water agencies to select an approach that is feasible and cost effective for their respective service areas. AB 49 will ensure that water use efficiency targets equitably address different hydrologic regions; weather and business cycles; appropriate application of credit for past conservation and recycling investments; and utilization of existing mechanisms to ensure reporting and accountability.

### **Water Use Reporting/Groundwater Management**

Metropolitan is a sponsor of AB 900 by Assembly Member Kevin DeLeon which would eliminate longstanding exemptions to the measurement and reporting of water use in the Delta watershed (particularly within the Delta itself). The collection of comprehensive data on surface water use is essential for the State Water Resources Control Board to ensure that water uses are consistent with established water rights.

The groundwater monitoring/reporting and water rights enforcement amendments are important topics, but less relevant directly to Metropolitan. Because groundwater basins are largely adjudicated in our service area, the groundwater management proposals are not likely to directly affect Metropolitan and our member agencies. However, Metropolitan supports the goal of improved groundwater water management as a statewide objective.

### **Delta Conservancy and Delta Protection Commission**

Metropolitan supports the creation of a new Delta Conservancy in order to coordinate habitat restoration and management under a single state entity. Delta Conservancy legislation must:

- Provide the authority to purchase land in fee-title, with no restrictions on the length of ownership.
- To the extent funds are made available, direct the Conservancy to assist in BDCP-related habitat projects without transferring legal responsibility to the Conservancy to implement the BDCP.
- Provide tools for the Conservancy to effectively work with local interests in carrying out the responsibilities of the Conservancy.

Metropolitan supports the Delta Protection Commission (DPC) and its role in local land use planning and decision-making. The DPC, under its current authority, can play a role in meeting the goals of the Delta Plan

**Proposed “Near-Term Actions” Language  
September 3, 2009**

85084. The council shall develop an interim plan that includes recommendations for early actions, projects, and programs including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Develop and implement an interim finance strategy for developing the Delta Plan.
- (b) Commence study of the transfer of the State Water Project to a separate public agency or utility.
- (c) Submission to the board, by April 1, 2010, of information and any recommendations by the Department of Fish and Game, consistent with the board’s determinations of instream flow needs in the Delta pursuant to Section 85086. The information shall include only information in its possession that the Department of Fish and Game deems reliable.

85085. The department shall do all of the following:

- (a) Coordinate with the Department of Fish and Game, the board, regional boards and the State Lands Commission efforts to cooperate with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to construct and implement the Two Gates Fish Protection Experiment by December 1, 2009. The Two Gate Fish Protection Experiment is anticipated to develop an effective strategy for managing turbidity as a means to improve habitat and reduce conflict between water exports and fish, including the Delta smelt.
- (b) Implement, in coordination with the Department of Fish and Game early action ecosystem restoration projects including, but not limited to, Dutch Slough, Lower Yolo Bypass and Suisun Marsh tidal marsh restoration.
- (c) Conduct an evaluation of a demonstration fish protection project for screens at Clifton Court Forebay by July 1, 2010.
- (d) Install non-physical fish protection barriers in strategic locations in the Delta to improve salmon survival.



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# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

## IV. INFORMATION

1. Newspaper Articles



dailybulletin.com

## Bill improves our water supply

Created: 09/09/2009 07:45:07 PM PDT

Of all the issues California struggles with, none is more important than water.

Water has always been the pre-eminent issue in the American West, and probably will be forever more.

Southern California is seeing its traditional sources of water - Colorado River imports and the State Water Project - dry up.

Local water leaders are responding by making the most of water sources they control, particularly by managing local groundwater and recycling wastewater. A bill that will soon land on the governor's desk will give them a tool they need to help maximize water recycling: local control of salinity issues.

In particular, Assembly Bill 1366 would allow local water agencies to regulate discharge from home water softeners, but only in areas where the regional water quality board has determined that there is a particular salinity problem, and

only after public hearings on the process.

The Inland Valley is one of those areas with salinity issues. That's why the local Inland Empire Utilities Agencies was one of the co-sponsors of AB 1366, along with the regional Metropolitan Water District.

Traditional household automatic water softeners pose a major threat to our local water supply because each one of them dumps about 30 pounds of salt each month into the wastewater stream. IEUA turns that wastewater into recycled water - which is used for industrial and commercial processes, irrigation of golf courses and public landscaping, dust control and the like; and which is safe for all human contact except drinking. But if the wastewater gets too salty, it is either unusable or tremendously expensive to remove enough salt to make it usable.

Essentially, the homeowner might pay five bucks for a bag of water-softening salt, but it will cost 10 to 20 times that much to remove that same salt while recycling the water - a cost that will be borne by all local water buyers.

Best to start getting those old water softeners out of the wastewater stream

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and replacing them with alternative softening methods. IEUA already offers rebates of \$300 to \$2,000 to homeowners who let the agency remove their water softeners. (Visit [www.ieua.org](http://www.ieua.org).) AB 1366 would make it possible for the agency to require removal of home systems that pollute our reusable water supply with excess salinity - and require full payment to the homeowner for the value of the system.

There are alternative water softening systems available that do not pollute in this way - including salt-filled cylinders that can be traded out each month and disposed of without harming the water supply - and Southern Californians need to convert to such systems; we will pay an awful price in sky-high water rates in the future if we fail to do so.

The governor vetoed a similar bill last year, but AB 1366 has been improved to the extent that even the water softener trade association has withdrawn opposition to it. It is endorsed by water agencies all over the state, the League of California Cities, agriculture, business councils and environmental groups.

"If AB 1366 is vetoed, it will make it clear this governor has no water policy,"

Ken Willis, chairman of Chino Basin Watermaster, told our editorial board.

Agreed. The governor needs to sign this bill.

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FRIDAY 9/7/09

TODAY 9/6/09

INLAND VALLEY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2009

# Daily Bulletin

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## WATER SOFTENERS Bill improves our water supply

**O**f all the issues California struggles with, none is more important than water. Water has always been the pre-eminent issue in the American West, and probably will be forever more.

Southern California is seeing its traditional sources of water — Colorado River imports and the State Water Project — dry up.

Local water leaders are responding by making the most of water sources they control, particularly by managing local groundwater and recycling wastewater. A bill that will soon land on the governor's desk will give them a tool they need to help maximize water recycling: local control of salinity issues.

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## Delta 'bypass' a cure for its ills

Douglas Headrick

Created: 09/01/2009 08:05:35 PM PDT  
Southern California Water Committee Chairman Charles Wilson caught everyone's attention at the third annual San Bernardino Water Conference when he likened California's water delivery system to a sick patient in desperate need of a coronary bypass operation.

"The heart of this patient needs a bypass surgery in the worst possible way," Wilson said during the Aug. 20 conference. He was talking about the need for a peripheral canal around the troubled Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The analogy couldn't be more on target.

More than 25 million people, or two-thirds of California's population, depend to varying degrees on the water that flows through the Delta. Its waters also provide the lifeblood for much of the state's agribusiness and countless other industries that make California the eighth-largest economy in the world. In San Bernardino County, we depend on

Delta water because our local water needs far outstrip the runoff we receive from our local mountains. In fact, without Delta water, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District would be hard pressed to satisfy the needs of 13 local water agencies from Rialto to Yucaipa and their 700,000 business and residential customers, let alone maintain the integrity of local groundwater basins.

So when a federal judge ordered a 30 percent cutback in Delta water deliveries two years ago to protect the delta smelt, a small fish, many water agencies in San Bernardino County and throughout Central and Southern California had no choice but to impose immediate water restrictions.

The problems involving the Delta are complex. While some argue that water exports threaten the delta smelt and other endangered fish, others assert that these fish are equally threatened by contaminated runoff from agriculture, wastewater treatment plant discharges and invasive non-native species, which compete with smelt and other fish species for food. Another problem involves the Delta's antiquated system of levees, which could easily fail during an earthquake or flood, resulting in ocean

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water rushing into vast areas of the Delta, leaving large parts of California without an adequate water supply for months or years.

Given the magnitude of these problems, many argue that the best way to maintain the Delta's viability as an ecological and water resource is simply to bypass the existing network of canals with a new canal or perhaps even a tunnel, which would enable the state to better control water flows in and around the Delta for the benefit of both fish and people.

Unfortunately, every plan to re-route water supplies around the Delta is met with some level of opposition from sports fishermen, environmental groups or local interests who seem to be more interested in doing nothing rather than taking concrete steps to address the biggest single threat facing Californians and the state's economy, which is continued cutbacks in Delta water deliveries.

To make matters worse, the courts are clogged with lawsuits that have been filed by state, federal and local agencies as well as environmental organizations, further complicating efforts to restore the flow of Delta water throughout the state.

But while it may be tempting for some to simply give up on the idea of waging a political battle to ensure that an alternative conveyance system is put in place to protect the long-term viability of the Delta, water agencies in Southern California and throughout the state know this is one battle we cannot afford to lose.

"We cannot give up on our imported water supply," said Brian Thomas, assistant general manager and chief financial officer of Metropolitan Water District, in his remarks to water conference attendees.

Kirby Brill, general manager of Mojave Water Agency, made a similar call to action. "I challenge everybody not to give up on the Delta," he said, adding, "We really need to step up and make sure our voice is heard in this 'fixing the Delta' discussion."

As the largest provider of imported water in San Bernardino County, we at San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District also believe that it is critical that our elected representatives act now to ensure that an alternative conveyance or "bypass" system is built to ensure the long-term viability of Delta water

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supplies.

*Douglas Headrick, deputy general manager of San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, was a panelist at the San Bernardino County Water Conference.*

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This story is taken from Sacbee / Opinion

# Editorial: Don't rush water package into law

**Published Friday, Sep. 11, 2009**

With the clock ticking toward the scheduled end tonight of this year's legislative session, lawmakers are closer than they have ever been to adopting a comprehensive plan to protect the state's water supply and restore and preserve the fragile and declining Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Legislators have been prodded and pounded by all sides – by business interests and labor, farmers and farmworkers, Southern California governments, Silicon Valley computer chip-makers and environmentalists. Legislative leaders, including Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg of Sacramento, want desperately to demonstrate that they, and the institution in which they serve, are capable of solving big, seemingly intractable problems.

And so it is with considerable reluctance that we urge a timeout. This issue is too important, and the stakes are too high, to rush it to judgment, even after more than a decade of wrangling.

The package of five bills that has emerged from weeks of mostly back-room negotiations looks promising to us. But the measures also look too complex and raise too many questions to pass them into law with only a day or two of serious review. And perhaps the most important piece – the financing – still wasn't public by Thursday afternoon.

We're not naive. We realize that the pressure of a deadline is usually the only thing that will get lawmakers to act on tough issues such as this one. Like lawyers negotiating on the courthouse steps as a trial is about to begin, legislators don't want to make difficult compromises until they think they absolutely must do so.

But this is the first year of the Legislature's two-year session, and tonight's deadline is not set in stone. The Legislature can return, next week or next month, either in an extended regular session or in a special session called by the governor.

If they do so, they can address several questions about this package, among them:

- How will it protect the water supply and the water quality of the people who live and work in the Delta?
- How much will it cost to restore and protect the Delta, and who is going to pay for it? Will those costs be spread fairly?

- Will it allow the state to build a new canal to move water from north to south around and through the Delta without a vote of the people, and if so, how will Northern California interests be safeguarded?
- What additional water storage, including reservoirs, will be built, and will the people and businesses using the water stored in them be asked to pay the cost of their construction and upkeep?

Steinberg, Assembly Speaker Karen Bass and other key players in this deal deserve tremendous credit for pushing this package to the brink of passage and building consensus on some very tough issues.

But now that their handiwork has seen the light of day, they should take some time to sell it to the people who were not at the negotiating table. Otherwise, they risk seeing their work bogged down by lawsuits, ballot measures and more years of regulatory infighting.

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## Cucamonga Valley customers to get hike in their water bills

Wendy Leung, Staff Writer

Created: 08/12/2009 04:52:33 PM PDT  
 RANCHO CUCAMONGA - Cucamonga Valley Water District customers will see their water bill increase by an average of \$4.16 starting Sept. 1.

Board members approved the rate hike on Tuesday after receiving five letters of protest and one letter of support.

Under Proposition 218, also known as the Right to Vote on Taxes Act, a majority of district customers, more than 28,000 property owners, need to submit a protest letter in order to strike down the rate hike.

Board members voted unanimously for the increase, calling the move a direct result of a major increase by the Metropolitan Water District, which sells imported water to Cucamonga Valley.

"I realize the time couldn't be worse with the housing market and so many people

losing their jobs," said board member Hank Stoy. "We have no choice."

An average household that pays \$97.66 every two months will now pay \$4.16 more.

This year, the local water agency reduced its operating budget by \$2.5 million and laid off 13 employees. But the cuts weren't enough to absorb the higher rates by Metropolitan, officials say.

Since 2004, MWD rates have remained either stagnate or increased by less than 6 percent. But in January, Metropolitan raised rates by about 17 percent and is raising it by another 17 percent next month.

"I'm disappointed that Metropolitan went a number of years without raising," said board member Kathy Tiegs. "They're raising it at one time rather than over a period of time which would've been more palatable."

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# Upland working toward water conservation education

Upland working toward water conservation education

Sandra Emerson, Staff Writer

Created: 08/12/2009 03:56:49 PM PDT

UPLAND - Alison Loukeh knows the water business.

Loukeh, a water conservation and education specialist, was hired by the city in May to lead the way for some of the city's water conservation efforts.

"What I've started on is not only watching legislation, what's coming up with the drought, what's going on with the state, but also how to make Upland more aware that we actually are in a drought and everybody needs to do their part," Loukeh said.

To enforce a water conservation ordinance implemented in the 1990s, Loukeh intends educate through public outreach.

Starting tonight, a booth will be set up during the Upland Farmer's Market at least twice a month. Loukeh will be there

sharing conservation tips and regulations the city is enforcing.

"Our focus is to reduce water use, not penalize people," Loukeh said.

The city's youth certainly won't be left out of any conservation education within the city. Loukeh will be working with the high schools in order to educate teens on water usage.

Homeowners associations, which are big water users, will be part of the education programs as well, Loukeh said.

State legislation is also a concern of the city's Public Works Department. Loukeh will be keeping an eye out for any new legislation that would affect the city's water.

The governor has called for water usage in the state to be reduced by 20 percent by 2020.

"We have looked at legislation, making sure we're in compliance with any law that comes up and we're ready," she said. "There's always legislation at the state level, so I watch that pretty closely to see how that effects us in the future."

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The city has its own water rights, but gets a portion of its water from the San Antonio Water Company and West End Consolidated Water Co.

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Some water is imported in through the Metropolitan Water District, which is at a low due to restrictions in the Sacramento Delta area due to threatened to the Delta smelt fish population there.

The city is working on implementing a recycled water program, which will be used for golf courses, public right of way, schools and other public landscaping.

"It will be like adding tons of water to what is available to our community and it will be vital for the long term and that means decades into the future," said Councilman Ken Willis. "The sooner it can be accomplished the better, and I am certain that if we can get this up and running on schedule, it will be a huge benefit to our citizens."

The program is expected to be designed and ready to implement in a couple years.

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Conservation key

# City, agency officials find consensus on drought

Liset Márquez, Staff Writer

Created: 08/20/2009 08:57:12 PM PDT  
ONTARIO - Examining the real value of delivering water and identifying local conservation solutions will be key components in dealing with a drought in the midst of a recession, according to area water and city officials.

From offering cash incentives to installing recycled water lines, agencies are doing their share to conserve, said Scott Coler, president of the Building Industry Association's Baldy View Chapter.

The next step will be getting homeowners to do their part, said Tim Piasky, chief operating officer with Victory Homes.

The officials made the suggestions Thursday at the San Bernardino County Water Conference in Ontario.

"The only way to circumvent what is happening today is we need to get smarter and implement land use and



Fred Agudelo, with the Baldy View Chapter of the Building Industry Association, drinks a glass of water as he speaks with Jonathan Weldy of the Meridian Land Development Co. during a break at the San Bernardino County Water Conference on Thursday at the Ontario Convention Center. (Will Lester / Staff Photographer)

environmental conservation designs," said Josie Gonzales, San Bernardino County's

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5th District supervisor.

The building industry has responded to the call, implementing greener standards in new developments for the past five years, Piasky said.

When it comes to conservation, new home developments - which Piasky likened to a Toyota Prius - already meet green standards.

"The problem we have is the existing homes - it's like they are the Hummer. How do we improve it?" Piasky said.

Improving older homes would mean retrofitting pipelines and installing low-flow toilets as well as shower heads.

"Older homes (are) difficult because you have to tear up streets to put in purple pipelines," said Ken Willis, an Upland councilman who served as a moderator of a panel discussion.

Even if cities can't afford to install new piping for recycled water, most homeowners can still do their part to conserve water by cutting in half how much they water their lawns, said Celeste Cantu, general manager of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority.

"We still have not a drop to waste," Cantu said. "If we move our households on that scale, then we'll be just fine."

In Upland and Ontario, homeowners and businesses have made small strides and cut water consumption by about 15 percent, said Rich Atwater, general manager of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency.

State water agencies are not only facing limitations in how much water can be imported because of environmental regulations, but they are also in the middle of a state of emergency for California's water supply.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger declared the emergency last year, urging everyone to cut use by 20 percent.

In 2003, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency began a program where it stored excess water, which reduced the amount of water imported by half, Atwater said.

The move has helped the agency during the drought.

A "cash for grass" program put on by the Mojave Water Agency has resulted in three quarters of a million square feet of

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turf being removed in the Apple Valley area, said Scott Weldy, general manager of the Apple Valley Ranchos Water Co.

The Mojave agency gives 50 cents per square foot to replace lawn for low water-use landscaping.

"All the tools are available to promote conservation. We have to educate our constituents on what exactly the problem is," Weldy said.

Atwater said the IEUA has also implemented the program.

Officials in Apple Valley decided to implement tiered water rates to promote conservation, Weldy said.

That was three years ago. Since then, there has been a drop in water consumption, he said.



Lorri Gray, lower Colorado regional director for the Bureau of Reclamation, speaks at the 2009 San Bernardino County Water Conference on Thursday at the Ontario Convention Center. (Will Lester / Staff Photographer)

Cantu said she agrees in implementing a tiered system because it helps homeowners "live within our water budget - it's not wastewater," she said.

The price of water increases with each tier.

The system gets people to pay attention if they have to pay the full value of delivering water, Cantu said.

"It is the most economical way to get significant water savings," she said. "Water is underrated - everyone takes it for granted."

The conference was created three years ago by the county and the Building

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Industry Association in order to start a dialogue about water supply, Coler said.

promote conservation.

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### MAKING STRIDES

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger wants use cut by 20 percent. How some local communities are working toward that goal:

- Upland and Ontario homeowners and businesses have cut water consumption by about 15 percent.
- The Inland Empire Utilities Agency has reduced the amount of water it imports by half through a program in which they store excess water for use during drought.
- Mojave Water Agency and IEUA have a "Cash for grass" program, giving 50cents per square foot to replace lawn for low water-use landscaping. So far 750,000 square feet of turf has been removed in the Apple Valley.
- City officials in Apple Valley implemented tiered water rates to

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## Wise water use urged

### Conservation seen as way to cut costs

Matt Wrye, Staff Writer

Created: 08/20/2009 06:41:04 PM PDT

Cash-strapped businesses and consumers looking to save on overhead might want to consider a tip: Use less water.

The price of water is going up, and there's no stopping it for the foreseeable future - unless conservative measures are taken to battle drought conditions.

That's what business leaders and water experts said Thursday at the San Bernardino County Water Conference at the Ontario Convention Center.

While the recession is forcing consumers and businesses to drastically cut their spending, rising water rates could squeeze them that much more.

Some policy-shapers argue that a "tiered" water-rate pricing system - where water gets exceptionally expensive the more you use - is the best way to make water users realize its value in fueling the economy.

"If we were to price it more appropriately, people would pay more attention," said Celeste Cantu, general manager of the Riverside-based Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, which

focuses on protecting the quality of Santa Ana River water.

Conservation efforts have proven successful, but pricier water rates could give customers the extra nudge needed to take conservation to the next level.

"Our water is undervalued - everyone takes it for granted," Cantu said. "(Tiered pricing) is the most economical way to save water."

Water rates are rising for several reasons, but the two main culprits are a supply decrease at the wholesale level, coupled with higher infrastructure transport costs for wholesalers.

"They have to raise rates to offset the loss of revenues," said Rob Sears, territory manager for Measurement Control Systems, a Santa Ana-based high-tech water meter distributor.

He said wholesale rates have recently jumped 20percent to 30percent for businesses across Southern California.

"The trend everywhere is up," Sears said. "I don't know anyone who's able to hold their rates down."

The economic connection goes further than just higher water rates.

The long-term availability of water is raising eyebrows at land use and planning commission meetings in San Bernardino County, according to Kirby Brill, general manager of the Apple Valley-


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based Mojave Water Agency.

He said retail and residential builders play huge roles in creating local jobs and attracting peripheral development, but some city officials are starting to question whether enough water is available to support projects - a move that could limit economic growth.

Tim Piasky agrees but thinks water agencies should shape their strategies differently.

The chief operating officer for Arcadia-based Victory Homes said California's drought issue demands a federal response. Billions in stimulus dollars have been set aside for green energy projects, but water conservation seems to be mostly left out of the equation.

"On the existing-home side of things, we're still inefficient (water wise) compared to new homes," Piasky said. "It'd be a boost to the economy if we had those water dollars."

Even with water issues at hand, the Inland Empire is still a target for economic growth, he said.

"Where else are you going to go?" Piasky said. "The area has been set up for it."

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## WATER CONFERENCE

# Wise water use urged

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By Matt Wrye Staff Writer

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Will Lester Staff Photographer

David Schroeder, a water conservation specialist with the Chino Basin Water Conservation District, speaks with Upland Councilman Ray Musser during a break at the the San Bernardino County Water Conference on Thursday at the Ontario Convention Center.

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The economic connection

goes further than just higher water rates.

The long-term availability of water is raising eyebrows at land use and planning commission meetings in San Bernardino County, according to Kirby Brill, general manager of the Apple Valley-based Mojave Water Agency.

He said retail and residential builders play huge roles in creating local jobs and attracting peripheral development, but some city officials are starting to question whether enough water is available to support projects — a move that could limit economic growth.

Tim Piasky agrees but thinks water agencies should shape their strategies differently.

The chief operating officer

for Arcadia-based Victory Homes said California's drought issue demands a federal response. Billions in stimulus dollars have been set aside for green energy projects, but water conservation seems to be mostly left out of the equation.

"On the existing-home side of things, we're still inefficient (water wise) compared to new homes," Piasky said. "It'd be a boost to the economy if we had those water dollars."

Even with water issues at hand, the Inland Empire is still a target for economic growth, he said.

"Where else are you going to go?" Piasky said. "The area has been set up for it."

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## For water's sake, regulate softeners

Rich Atwater

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An extraordinary coalition of business, agriculture, environmental and local governments have come together to support Assembly Bill 1366 (Feuer/Caballero/A. Strickland), which will provide our community with the authority to protect our water quality from the salinity impacts caused by a specific type of residential water softener - the self-regenerating devices that require the use of bags and bags of salt to make the equipment work.

As California struggles through the third year of drought and moves forward with discussions about how to solve problems in the San Francisco Bay Delta, we need to tackle all aspects of our water crisis. For years, however, state law has unduly constrained local water agencies from determining how best to address one significant water supply and quality issue - excess salinity in some surface and groundwater supplies caused, in part, by residential self-regenerating water softeners. AB 1366 takes a measured approach to solve this problem.

Current law gives local and regional agencies wide latitude to regulate salinity inputs from every other source - agricultural, commercial and industrial, except home water softeners. Never mind that one typical self-regenerating home

water softener can dump up to 30 pounds of salt into the sewer system each month, contributing salinity that can make water recycling cost-prohibitive.

It is time to change the law that continues to place the interests of one industry over the interests of all other businesses, agriculture and, significantly, ratepayers.

The experience of the Santa Clarita Valley in northern Los Angeles County underscores why.

The Sanitation District instituted a voluntary rebate program followed by ban on residential use of self-regenerating water softeners, with reimbursement for any units that were removed.

The result: The vast majority of Santa Clarita's water softeners are now gone. As a result, the salt added has dropped by almost half.

Had the Sanitation District been forced to remove the equivalent amount of salt through advanced wastewater treatment upgrades with reverse osmosis desalination - as has occurred elsewhere in California - ratepayers would have paid more than 30 times as much as the rebate and reimbursement program cost.

The lesson of Santa Clarita is clear - expanding the options of publicly accountable local agencies in dealing with salinity issues, as AB 1366 aims to do, can save ratepayers millions of dollars.

Here in the Inland Empire our residents and

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businesses have invested hundreds of millions in the development of our local recycled water and groundwater supplies to drought proof our economy. With the state now predicting dramatic reductions in California's future water supplies due to problems in the Delta and climate change, we must take action to protect the water supplies we have. This means we need to support the passage of AB 1366 and start using non-salt-based water softening devices.

*Rich Atwater is general manger of Inland Empire Utilities Agency, which is a co-sponsor of AB 1366. Other co-sponsors are: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Irvine Ranch Water District, the Water Replenishment District of Southern California, and the WateReuse Association. The agency offers a residential self-regenerating water softener rebate of up to \$2,000 with free disconnection and removal. For more information, please visit [www.ieua.org](http://www.ieua.org).*

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