



# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

## IV. REPORTS / UPDATES

### D. INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY

3. State and Federal Legislative Reports
4. Community Outreach/Public Relations Report
5. IEUA Monthly Water Newsletter



**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**January 19, 2012**

**AGENDA**

**INTERAGENCY WATER MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Chino Basin Watermaster**

**9641 San Bernardino Road**

**Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730**

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**Discussion Items:**

- MWD Update (oral)
- Water Softener Initiative (oral)

**Written Items:**

- State and Federal Legislative Reports
- Community Outreach/Public Relations Report
- IEUA Monthly Water Newsletter

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Date: January 18, 2012  
To: The Honorable Board of Directors  
Through: Public, Legislative Affairs, and Water Resources Committee (1/11/12)  
From: Thomas A. Love  
General Manager  
Submitted by: Martha Davis  
Executive Manager of Policy Development  
Subject: December Legislative Report from Innovative Federal Strategies, LLC

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**RECOMMENDATION**

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

**BACKGROUND**

Letitia White provides a monthly report (attached) on their federal activities on behalf of IEUA.

**PRIOR BOARD ACTION**

None.

**IMPACT ON BUDGET**

None.

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# *Innovative Federal Strategies* LLC

Comprehensive Government Relations

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Tom Love and Martha Davis, IEUA

**From:** Letitia White and Heather Hennessey

**Date:** December 28, 2011

**Re:** December Monthly Legislative Update

The month of December brought welcome resolution to some major Congressional battles and kicked the can down the road on some others. The President signed into law the final federal spending bills right before Christmas, avoiding any further fights on federal spending for FY 2012. After House Republicans engaged in a week-long delay, the two month extension of payroll tax cuts and unemployment benefits was also sent to the President for his signature, but the issue will be one of the first on the agenda for next year.

We were very pleased to see that during the end-of-year legislative flurry the Hoover Power Allocation Act passed the final hurdle in the Senate and was signed by the President. In January, we will give our full attention to supporting your work toward the January 17<sup>th</sup> deadline for the Bureau's open Title XVI construction grant solicitation. Please keep us posted as you and Western work toward completion of the grant application and let us know how we can be helpful.

### ***Outlook for 2012***

As we look ahead at the second half of the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress, the politics of the presidential election are likely to dominate on Capitol Hill. With every House Member and 1/3 of the Senate also facing elections this year, both parties are painfully aware of their low approval ratings and the anti-incumbent mood around the country. Congress will only be in session for a few days in January, but both parties will hold their annual retreats to map out goals and strategies for the year.

Tax policy issues are poised to take center stage in 2012 and could take the form of incentives for business to hire more workers or closures of "loop holes" in the current tax code. Much of the work done by the various deficit reduction committees in 2011, including the Supercommittee, resulted in some shelf-ready proposals that could gain traction as job creation measures. The Chairmen of both the House and Senate tax-writing committees sat on the Supercommittee, giving them a basis for ongoing dialogues about policy changes that could help the economy.

Also, the reduced income tax rates known as the "Bush tax cuts" are set to expire at the end of 2012, and extending those tax rates is a central goal of Republicans. Unless Congress takes

## *Innovative Federal Strategies LLC*

action, the top tax rate for income in 2013 would increase from 35% to 39.6%, dividends would be taxed as ordinary income, and the capital gains tax would rise by 5%. In the nearer term, the Social Security payroll tax reduction and extension of unemployment benefits only lasts through February, making that debate one of the first that Congress will undertake in the New Year. With huge price tags on these provisions - \$4 trillion for the expiring Bush tax cuts and \$200 billion for the payroll tax cuts - the debates will become entangled with continued deficit reduction efforts.

Debate on the federal budget for FY 2013 will begin in early February when the President presents his budget to Congress. As soon as we see the President's budget, we will provide you with an analysis of the provisions that affect your ongoing programs.

Several authorization measures are long overdue for Congressional action, including Transportation Reauthorization and the Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA). Both of those bills are expensive, and it is unclear whether they will be able to pass in the current climate. Prior efforts were assisted by the inclusion of earmarks, which gave individual members a stake in the outcome of the bill. Even with earmarks included, the bills often took months of work and required a lot of political capital. We will continue to update you as they move through the process.

We wish everyone at IEUA a very Happy New Year and look forward to a wonderful 2012!



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Date: January 18, 2012  
To: The Honorable Board of Directors  
Through: Public, Legislative Affairs, and Water Resources Committee (1/11/12)  
From: Thomas A. Love  
General Manager  
Submitted by: Martha Davis  
Executive Manager of Policy Development  
Subject: December Legislative Report from Dolphin Group

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**RECOMMENDATION**

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

**BACKGROUND**

Michael Boccadoro provides a monthly report (attached) on the Dolphin Group's activities on behalf of the Chino Basin/Optimum Basin Management Program Coalition.

**PRIOR BOARD ACTION**

None.

**IMPACT ON BUDGET**

None.

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**December 23, 2011**

**To:** Inland Empire Utilities Agency  
**From:** Michael Boccadoro  
President  
**RE:** December Status Report



**Overview:**

The Legislature is currently out of session, scheduled to return in January to start the second, and final year of the legislative term.

As reported in October and November, Governor Brown and the Legislature were unable to pass a bill to reauthorize the energy Public Goods Charge (PGC). Governor Brown has directed the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to consider alternative means to keep the program, set to expire in January, funded in the future. The CPUC has opened a new rulemaking proceeding and an interim decision has been issued, until the commission can review the program thoroughly.

While no official action has taken place on the CPUC proceeding on the implementation of SB 32 (Feed in Tariff), a group of stakeholders, including the California Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCG) submitted an alternative proposal articulating a different method for determining the Feed in Tariff (FiT).

Concern over the budget continues in Sacramento with unfavorable outlooks moving into the new year. Limited "budget triggers" will be pulled, as revenues are off from the projections from last year.

Finally, there are over 60 initiatives that have been filed with the Attorney General that could qualify for the November ballot in the coming months.

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# Inland Empire Utilities Agency

## Status Report – December 2011

### *CPUC Discusses Continuation of Public Goods Charge for Energy*

After failing to pass legislation to reauthorize the energy Public Goods Charge (PGC) during the legislative session, Governor Brown turned to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to find a way to extend the program. In response, the CPUC opened a new rulemaking proceeding in October to explore ways to fund the PGC before it expires in January 2012.

A ruling from an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) outlined a two phase process the proceeding is going to take and stated legal findings that allow the CPUC to continue the charge without legislative approval. Until a full discussion can take place at the CPUC, the PGC will continue to be collected on an interim basis and shall be known as the Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) - this is Phase 1 of the program.

Phase 1 will allow collection levels to remain the same- for Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) and the Renewables Program, with the funds being deposited into investment accounts, until the CPUC makes a final decision on program continuation. The funds cannot be used until the final decision is made by the Commission, and if the Commission decides to discontinue the program or alter the contribution levels, funds will be returned to ratepayers. Continuation of funding for energy efficiency programs is also progressing, but is being addressed in a separate proceeding.

The outline for Phase 2 will include discussions on improvements to the Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program; consideration of Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) program priorities; a broader governance structure; a technical advisory group to direct RD&D funds; and other details of the program.

The Phase 1 decision was considered at the CPUC meeting on December 15, and passed on consent with no discussion. Phase 2 discussions are expected to start in January with a goal of having a decision in March or April.

A number of parties are supporting CPUC action to extend the PGC and expand the renewables program for biogas projects. The Phase 2 discussions will determine priorities and detail the program specifics.

### *SB 32 Implementation/RPS Proceeding*

The CPUC proceeding focused on SB 32 (Feed-in Tariff) implementation is continuing. A revised staff proposal was released in late October that provides a comprehensive Renewable Feed-in Tariff (FiT) program that seeks to address all of the major implementation issues. Parties commented on the staff proposal in November.



SB 32 was pursued by IEUA to correct a deficiency in the existing FiT program whereby the tariff, or power purchase price, is set at the market price referent (MPR). Under the revised staff proposal, the purchase prices would be set based on the future outcome of a separate renewable procurement program known as the renewable auction mechanism (RAM). The RAM is designed to procure renewable energy from small renewable energy projects up to 20 MW in size.

Proponents of SB 32 have significant concerns with the staff proposal, most notably that the reliance on the RAM could result in a prohibitively low FiT power purchase price. Parties are concerned that the RAM will be dominated by highly subsidized photovoltaic (PV) solar projects and thereby result in a low initial price. Parties are also concerned that the size difference (20 MW under RAM) will also skew the market price lower.

Several sets of comments by interested parties on the staff proposal yielded a general consensus that the staff proposal is not adequate and that staff and the Commission should consider other options for adopting a FiT. A group of like-minded parties filed an "alternative proposal" on December 19. Among the parties included in the filing is, the California Wastewater Climate Change Group (CWCCG), of which IEUA is a member. The alternative proposal generally recommends that the FiT price be set by using an administratively determined avoided-cost based pricing methodology that could be used for multiple renewable technologies, including biogas. This pricing mechanism would allow biogas projects to receive an equitable rate for power produced. Key features of the alternative proposal include:

- Explicit avoided-cost values for the energy, capacity and the green value of the power that would be provided through the feed-in-tariff.
- Time-of-delivery multipliers so as to reward renewable sellers who provide power during peak hours and those that include storage (e.g.; temporary storage of biogas at the site of generation at a wastewater treatment plant or a dairy digester facility)
- Avoided transmission and distribution adders, which can be either used directly or tailored to reflect the specific avoided cost benefits or a project.
- The flexibility to include both general and/or project- or technology-specific monetized environmental benefits.

This motion asks for a Ruling directing an additional Workshop be held in January to consider the alternative proposal and that the alternative be considered by the Commission when it makes its decision.

### ***State Budget***

When Governor Brown signed the state budget in June, there was an assumption that the state would receive an extra \$4 billion in revenue. Only half of that has materialized, resulting in an estimated \$1 billion in automatic spending cuts, or "triggers, to be initiated. Trigger cuts will impact the University of California, California State University and California welfare programs and rural school transportation are expected to also be cut, but indications are that K-12 education will be spared.

To cover the \$13 billion projected budget shortfall for 2012-2013 and future years, Governor Brown has proposed a ballot measure that would temporarily raise the state sales tax by half a cent and raise income taxes on those who earn over \$250,000 by up to two percent. He projects that this will raise \$7 billion in state revenues, about half of the budget shortfall, or \$7 billion.

Additionally, the Governor has stated that the budget he will propose in January will include approximately \$6 billion in additional spending cuts assuming that voters will approve his tax increases in November. Early polling indicates that the tax increases are favorable to California likely voters.

### ***Ballot Initiatives***

There is a long list of ballot initiatives, over 60 that are in varying stages of title and summary at the Attorney General's office, signature circulation and verification processes. Other than the water bond, there are no qualified ballot measures that would significantly affect IEUA. As initiatives qualify, we will keep you apprised.

### ***Legislation***

With the Legislature out of session, there has been no movement on any legislation in December. The Legislature will reconvene in early January to start the second year of the two year session. Bills introduced in 2011 will have to move out of their house of origin by January 31. New legislation for 2012 must be introduced by February 24.

As the new legislative year nears, there are early indications that some holdover measures, carried over from last year, will likely be heard in January.

SB 200 (Wolk): Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta: Bay Delta Conservation Plan will be heard in Senate Natural Resources and Water in early January, however it is unclear if there will be amendments to the current version of the bill before it is heard in committee.

In its current form, SB 200 (Wolk) amends the Delta Reform Act of 2009 that requires the Delta Stewardship Council to consider the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) for inclusion in a specified Delta Plan and the authorizes the incorporation of the plan into the Delta Plan if the BDCP meets certain requirements. It also requires any state agency that is responsible for authorizing or implementing any action of the BDCP to ensure the action is consistent with specified requirements prescribed by these provisions.

AB 19 (Fong) Building standards: water meters: multiunit structures will also be heard in early January. Proposed amendments narrow the scope of the bill to try to ensure passage by only making the regulations apply to "common interest developments". This bill will be heard in early January.

Key two-year bills IEUA will follow in 2012:

**LEGISLATION TO BE ADDRESSED IN 2012**

- CA AB 83 **AUTHOR:** Jeffries (R)  
**TITLE:** Environment: CEQA Exemption: Recycled Water Pipeline  
**INTRODUCED:**01/05/2011  
**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover  
**LOCATION:** Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
**SUMMARY:**  
Amends existing law regarding California Environmental Quality Act environmental impact reports. Exempts a project for the installation of a new pipeline for the distribution of recycled water within an improved public street, highway, or right-of-way.  
**Position:** Support
- CA AB 157 **AUTHOR:** Jeffries (R)  
**TITLE:** Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act  
**INTRODUCED:**01/19/2011  
**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover  
**LOCATION:** Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee  
**SUMMARY:**  
Reduces the total amount of bonds authorized to be issued pursuant to the Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012. Makes conforming reductions to amounts specified to be allocated from these bond funds for certain purposes.  
**Position:** Watch
- CA AB 467 **AUTHOR:** Eng (D)  
**TITLE:** Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply  
**INTRODUCED:**02/15/2011  
**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover  
**LOCATION:** Assembly Appropriations Committee  
**SUMMARY:**  
Amends existing law that requires the State Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the State Water Resources Control Board, to develop and adopt regulations governing the repayment of costs that are subsequently recovered from parties responsible for the contamination of groundwater. Requires the State of Department of Public Health to develop guidelines governing this repayment.  
**Position:** Watch
- CA AB 550 **AUTHOR:** Huber (D)  
**TITLE:** Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: Peripheral Canal  
**INTRODUCED:**02/16/2011  
**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover  
**LOCATION:** Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

**SUMMARY:**

Prohibits the construction of a peripheral canal that conveys water from a diversion point in the Sacramento River to a location south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, unless expressly authorized by the Legislature. Requires the Legislative Analyst's Office to complete an economic feasibility analysis prior to the enactment of a statute authorizing the construction of a peripheral canal. Prohibits the construction and operation of a peripheral canal from diminishing water quality.

**Position:** Oppose

CA AB 723 **AUTHOR:** Bradford (D)  
**TITLE:** Energy: Public Goods Charge  
**INTRODUCED:** 02/17/2011

**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover

**LOCATION:** Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee

**SUMMARY:**

Amends the Public Utilities Act that requires an electrical corporation to identify a separate electrical rate component, commonly referred to as the public goods charge to fund energy efficiency, renewable energy, and research, development, and demonstration programs that enhance system reliability and provide in-state benefits. Extends this requirement. Makes technical and conforming changes. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to implement various elements relating to energy efficiency.

**Position:** Watch

CA AB 1361 **AUTHOR:** Perea (D)  
**TITLE:** Electrical Corporations: Net Metering  
**INTRODUCED:** 02/18/2011

**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover

**LOCATION:** Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee

**SUMMARY:**

Revises the definition of an eligible customer-generator to include a defined state agency. Requires that the generating capacity of a facility used by a state agency not exceed 5 megawatts pursuant to both the net energy metering requirements and the wind energy co-metering requirements.

**Position:** Watch

CA SB 34 **AUTHOR:** Simitian (D)  
**TITLE:** Water Resources Investment Act of 2011  
**INTRODUCED:** 12/06/2010

**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover

**LOCATION:** Senate Appropriations Committee

**SUMMARY:**

Requires revenues and charges collected under the Water Resources Investment Program to be deposited in the state Water Resources Investment Program Fund and a number of regional investment accounts within the fund. Requires money in the regional accounts be for water-related projects and programs. Requires state account moneys be appropriated for specified statewide water-related programs and

the Delta plan, mercury contamination in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and for related bond debt service.

**Position:** Watch

CA SB 35 **AUTHOR:** Padilla (D)  
**TITLE:** State Energy Research and Technology Act of 2011  
**INTRODUCED:** 12/06/2010  
**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover  
**LOCATION:** Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
**SUMMARY:**

Enacts the Energy Research and Technology Program Act of 2011. Requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to establish and administer the California Energy Research and Technology Program (CERT) to fund research, development, and demonstration projects to lead to advancement and breakthroughs to overcome barriers to the achievement of statutory energy goals. Requires regulation adoption. Requires the CERT council to track project progress. Requires a program review contract.

**Position:** Watch

CA SB 200 **AUTHOR:** Wolk (D)  
**TITLE:** Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: Bay Delta Conservation  
**INTRODUCED:** 02/08/2011  
**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover  
**LOCATION:** Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
**SUMMARY:**

Amends the Delta Reform Act of 2009 that requires the Delta Stewardship Council to consider the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) for inclusion in a specified Delta Plan and the authorizes the incorporation of the plan into the Delta Plan if the BDCP meets certain requirements. Requires any state agency that is responsible for authorizing or implementing any action of the BDCP to ensure the action is consistent with specified requirements prescribed by these provisions.

**Position:** Oppose

CA SB 370 **AUTHOR:** Blakeslee (R)  
**TITLE:** Energy: Net Energy Metering  
**INTRODUCED:** 02/15/2011  
**DISPOSITION:** Held on Suspense  
**LOCATION:** Senate Appropriations Committee  
**SUMMARY:**

Relates to net energy metering. Authorizes an agricultural customer-generator with multiple meters to elect to aggregate the electrical load of the meters located on the property where the generation facility is located and on all property adjacent or contiguous to the property on which the generation facility is located, if those properties are solely owned by the agricultural customer-generator.

**Position:** Watch

CA SB 900 **AUTHOR:** Steinberg (D)  
**TITLE:** Regional Water Quality Control Boards: Members

**INTRODUCED:**02/18/2011

**DISPOSITION:** Pending - Carryover

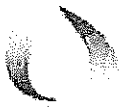
**LOCATION:** Assembly Inactive File

**SUMMARY:**

Amends the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Deletes provisions of the act prohibiting a board member from participating in actions that involve the member or a waste discharger with which the member is connected. Specifies that the limitation on the member's financial interest applies only to a disqualifying financial interest within the Political Reform Act. Relates to requirements, qualifications, and to disqualifying factors for regional board members.

**Position:** Watch

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Date: January 18, 2012  
To: The Honorable Board of Directors  
Through: Public, Legislative Affairs, and Water Resources Committee (1/11/12)  
From: Thomas A. Love  
General Manager  
Submitted by: Martha Davis  
Executive Manager of Policy Development  
Subject: December Legislative Report from Agricultural Resources

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**RECOMMENDATION**

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

**BACKGROUND**

Dave Weiman provides a monthly report on his federal activities on behalf of IEUA.

**PRIOR BOARD ACTION**

None.

**IMPACT ON BUDGET**

None.

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# *Agricultural Resources*

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Washington, D.C. 20002-5811  
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(202) 546-4472-fax  
[agresources@erols.com](mailto:agresources@erols.com)

December 28, 2011

## **Legislative Report**

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**TO: Thomas Love**  
**General Manager, Inland Empire Utility Agency**

**FR: David M. Weiman**  
**Agricultural Resources**  
**LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE, IEUA**

**SU: Legislative Report, December 2011**

**Highlights:**

- *First Session Congress Ends, Funding Shutdown Averted, Appropriations Enacted*
- *The Immediate Horizon – Second Session of Congress*
- *The Issues of Interest*
- *Drought Conditions/Water Supply*
- *IEUA Working Partners*

***First Session Congress Ends, Funding Shutdown Averted, Appropriations Enacted.***

Following one of the most fractious, divided and contentious sessions of Congress in recent history, the Session limped to a close on Christmas eve. Following the Supercommittee collapse, Congress had to fund the Federal Government for FY 2012. New battle lines were formed. Threats of shutdown were again invoked. In the end, Congress went home. Federal agencies were funded through September 30 (end of the fiscal year).

***The Immediate Horizon – Second Session of Congress.*** In no particular order, here's what to expect in the first two months of 2012.

- \* Election year – partisanship will impact every major issue/decision/event
- \* Administration submits request to raise debt limit (per August agreement). High probability will become another “shutdown government” confrontation.
- \* Administration budget submitted to Congress end of January, beginning of February containing significant cuts/reductions in resource departments and agencies (DOI, Commerce, EPA, Corps, Transportation, including BuRec, Forest Service, F&WL Service, NOAA, NMFS).
- \* All eyes on the weather. Will drought conditions resume? What kind of water winter will California have? Early signs are problematic.

***Drought Conditions and Water Supplies.*** A December 27 story in the Sacramento Bee soberly reported that water conditions in the Sierra Nevada Mountains were 97% below normal. This is the early side of the water year AND there is good carry-over from the 2011 water season. But, for the first time in months and months, the Drought Monitor is displaying “dry conditions” throughout all of Northern California and a small portion of Eastern California in San Bernadino and Imperial Counties. Portions of the Southern Tier to the east, however, remain in severe drought.

***The Issues of Interest.*** For the most part, substantive issues – policy, programming and funding – took a back seat to politics in 2011. Whenever a period like this is experienced, it's often followed by a period in which these matters get extraordinary attention. 2012 has many challenges. So does IEUA and the entire water community.

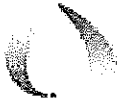
***IEUA Continues to Work With Various Partners.*** On an on-going basis in Washington, IEUA continues to work with:

- a. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)
- b. Milk Producer's Council (MPC)
- c. Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA)
- d. Water Environment Federation (WEF)
- e. Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
- f. WaterReuse Association
- g. CALStart
- h. Orange County Water District (OCWD)
- i. Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD)
- j. Western Municipal Water District
- k. Chino Basin Watermaster
- l. Western Urban Water Coalition

m. National Water Resources Association

Special Note. A happy and healthy New Year's to the management, staff and board. It is a pleasure and honor to represent IEUA before the Congress and Executive Branch. IEUA is a first class public agency. I am proud to represent you.

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Date: January 18, 2012  
To: The Honorable Board of Directors  
Through: Public, Legislative Affairs, and Water Resources Committee (01/11/12)  
From: Thomas A. Love  
General Manager  
Submitted by: Sondra Elrod  
Administration and Public Affairs Officer  
Subject: Public Outreach and Communications

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **2012 Calendar of Events**

##### January 2012

- January 24, Garden in Every School dedication for Montera Elementary
- January 26, Fontana State of the City Address, Breakfast Session is at 7:30 a.m., Lunch Session is at 11:30 a.m. at Jesse Turner Community Center.

##### March 2012

- March 1, Inland Empire Garden Friendly (IEGF) will showcase program at Home Depot's annual road show
- March 1-2, Project WILD Facilitator Training, IEUA Event Room
- March 9-10, Director Camacho's IEUA/MWD Educational Tour for the SWP

##### April 2012

- April 19, IEUA Annual Earth Day Event, Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park

##### May 2012

- May 18-20, MWD Solar Cup Competition, Lake Skinner

#### **Outreach/Educational Inland Valley Daily Bulletin Newspaper Campaign**

## Public Outreach and Communications

January 18, 2012

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The monthly tips on ways to help conserve water continue to appear in our local newspapers each month.

### Water Conservation Outreach

#### Regional Conservation Outreach Campaign

- Ongoing monthly ¼-page ads in the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, Champion Newspaper, Fontana Herald News.
- Ongoing water wise gardening classes.
- IEGF is examining billboard options to promote the program.

### Educational Updates

- The educational package for the Santa Ana Watershed is complete and received. A distribution/outreach campaign has started with the goal of reaching the complete Santa Ana Watershed Community. A list of California State Content Standards has been formatted for educators. To date, there has been a request for over 500 copies of the education package throughout the Santa Ana Watershed area.
- The Water Discovery Program has had fifteen bookings with an additional ten tentative bookings.

### PRIOR BOARD ACTION

None.

### IMPACT ON BUDGET

The above-mentioned activities are budgeted in the FY 2011/12 Administrative Service Fund, Public Information Services budget.

# IEUA MONTHLY WATER NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2012 (REPORTING DECEMBER 2011 DATA)

## Highlights

- **First Snow Survey of 2012 Shows Dry Conditions** - On January 3rd, the first snow survey results show that California's mountain snowpack is among the driest for the date on record. (Page 1)
- **MWD Successfully Stores Over 400,000 Acre-Feet in Lake Meade in 2011** - One year after reaching close to an all-time low, Lake Meade water levels rose 47 feet in 2011. (Page 1)
- **MWD Estimates Storing Another 300,000 Acre-feet in 2012** - Fiscal Year 2012/13 demands are expected to be approximately 1.7 million acre-feet, while available supplies are expected to be approximately 2.0 million acre-feet. (Page 2)

## First Snow Survey Results on SWP

On January 3, 2012, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the results of the first snow survey of the year. Their manual and electronic readings recorded the snowpack's statewide water content at 19% of the January 3 average. That is only 7% of the average April 1 measurement, when the snowpack is normally at its peak before spring melt.

DWR's initial estimate is that the State Water Project (SWP) will be able to deliver 60% of the slightly more than 4 million acre-feet of water requested by the 29 public agencies that supply more than 25 million Californians and nearly a million acres of irrigated farmland.

## Lake Meade Water Levels Rise in 2011

At the January Water Resources Committee meeting, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) staff reported that they have successfully stored over 400,000 acre-feet of in Lake Meade. Despite dropping to dramatically low levels in 2010, the water level in Lake Meade rose approximately 47 feet in 2011 (the largest single year increase in water level in recorded history). However, consistent with SWP snow surveys, the Lower Colorado Basin is at 60% of average snowpack, the lowest in 2002.



## MWD Supply & Demand Update

MWD is estimating that Fiscal Year 2012/13 demands will be approximately 1.7 million acre-feet and available supplies will be slightly over 2.0 million acre-feet. This will allow MWD to store approximately 300,000 acre-feet of imported supplies in their regional storage facilities. This will increase total MWD storage from 2.4 million acre-feet to 2.7 million acre-feet (the highest ever storage amount).



# IEUA Water Supply Programs

## Imported Water Deliveries

For Calendar Year 2011, IEUA and its member agencies have purchased 40,973 AF of Tier I water (approximately 69% of the Tier I limit). This does not include approximately 35,000 AF of replenishment water purchases that IEUA purchases between May and September 2011.

## Dry Year Yield (DYY) Program

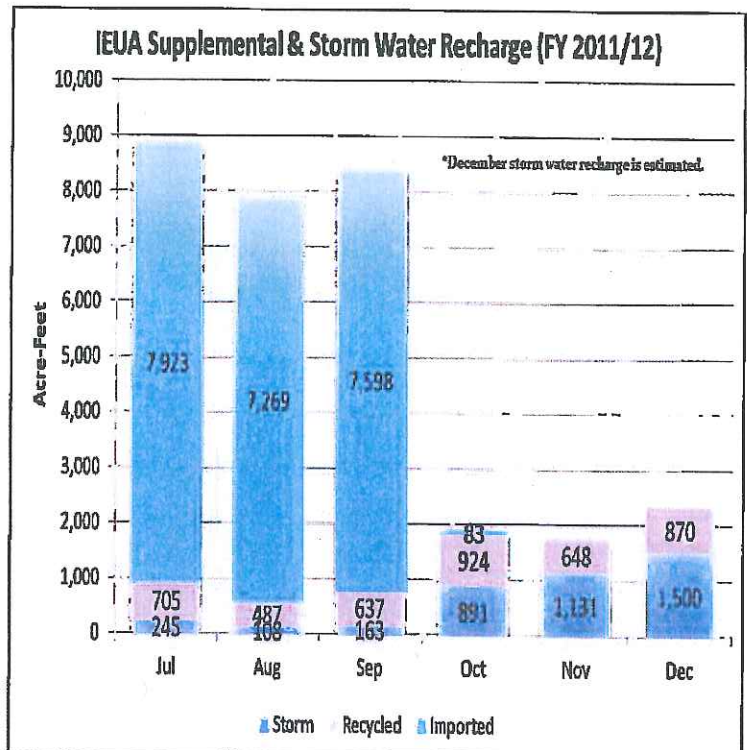
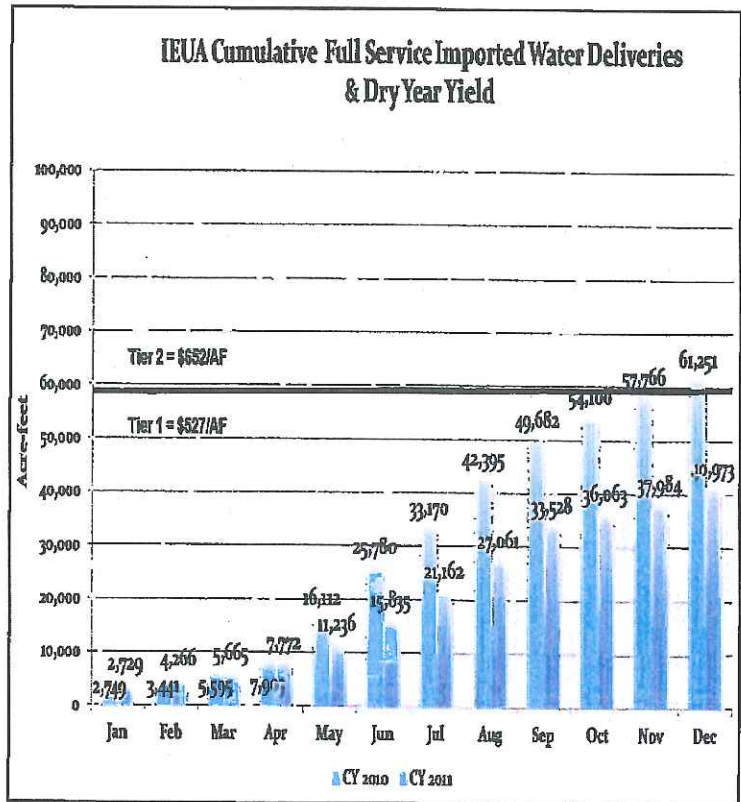
MWD has made a third consecutive call on the DYY Program. This call is considered to be a partial call because there is only 17,200 AF left in the storage account. The remaining water in the storage account will be split amongst the DYY participants based on a pre-defined "pro-rata" methodology. To date, DYY participants have certified all 17,200 AF (of which 4,707 AF will receive additional ion-exchange treatment credit from MWD).

## Chino Desalter Authority (CDA)

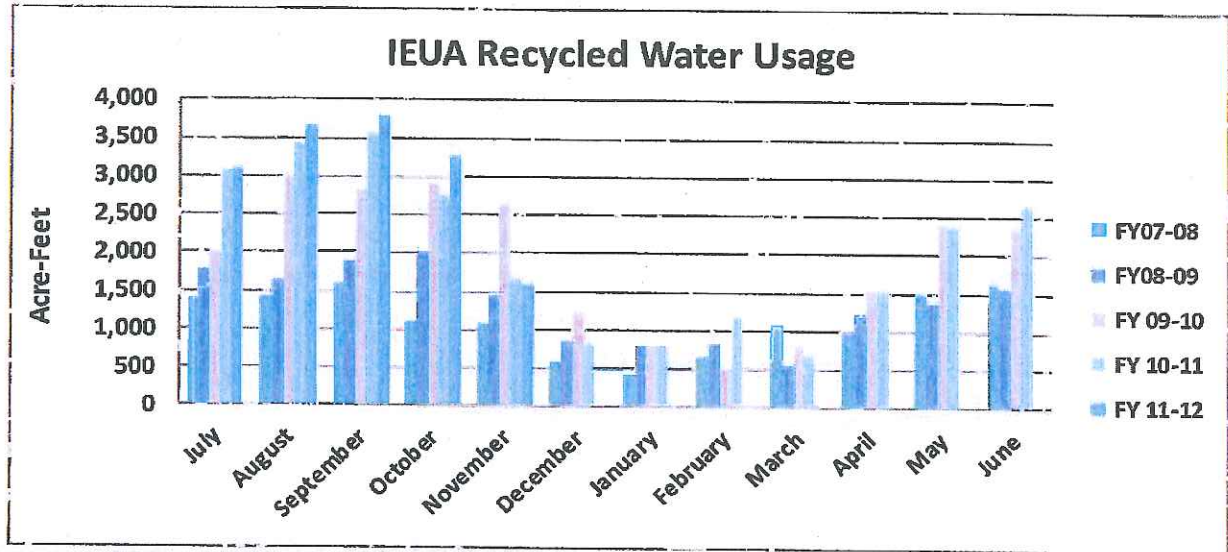
For the month of December, the two desalters produced 1,890 AF of water (of which 1,046 AF was delivered to IEUA retail agencies). The contracted entitlement is 24,600 AFY (but actual production is 25,000 to 26,000 AFY) and is scheduled for expansion to produce approximately 40,000 AFY by 2014, with the implementation of CDA Phase III.

## Groundwater Recharge Program

Halfway through Fiscal Year 2011/12, approximately 32,000 AF of storm, recycled and imported water has been recharged in the Chino Basin.



# Recycled Water News



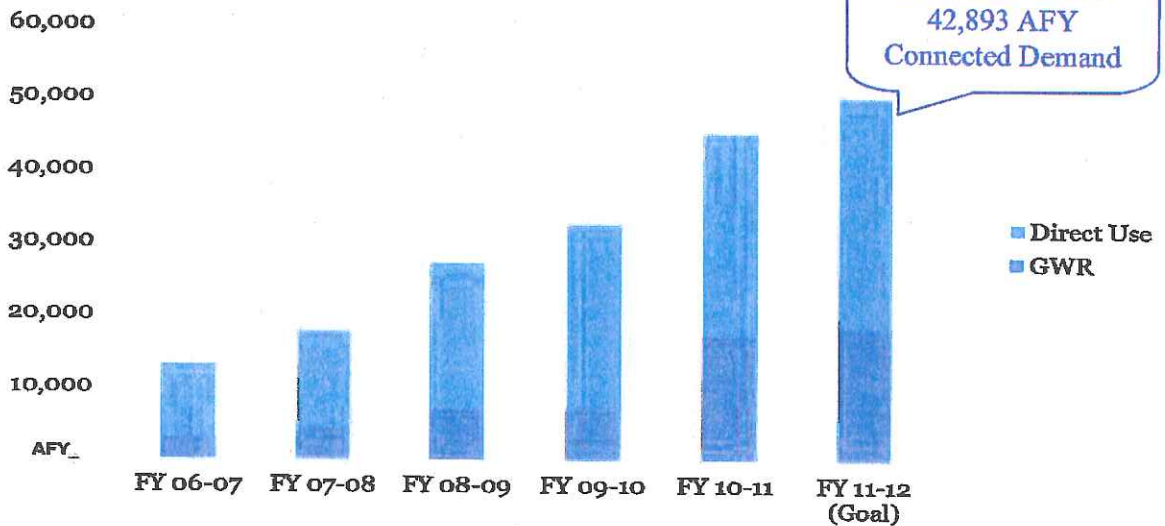
Recycled Water Usage:  
November 2011 Estimates

Recharge: 870 AF

Direct Sales: 580 AF

Total Usage: 1,450 AF

## IEUA Connected Recycled Water Demand





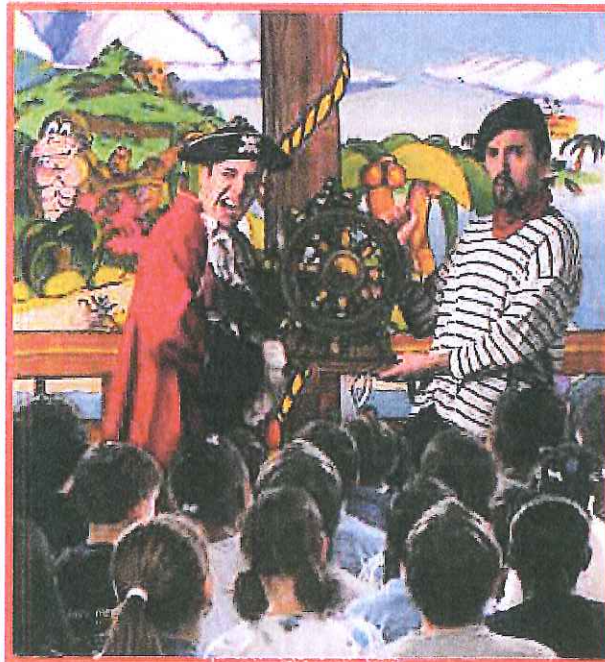
## Conservation Program News

### National Theatre for Children Final Report FY 2011-2012

#### Program Summary

The National Theatre for Children Program visited 52 schools on behalf of the Agency and its member agencies during the fall of 2011.

The actors performed a total of 90 shows reaching 23,538 students.



# Conservation Program News



**•Chino Hills:**  
8 Schools, 14 Performances,  
3,415 Students, 121 Teachers

**•City of Chino:**  
6 Schools, 10 Performances,  
2,203 Students, 94 Teachers

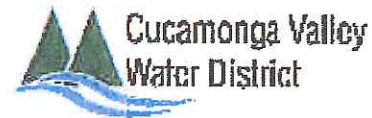
**•Cucamonga:**  
15 Schools, 27 Performances,  
6,588 Students, 242 Teachers

**•Fontana:**  
4 Schools, 7 Performances,  
2,098 Students, 79 Teachers

**•Monte Vista:**  
7 Schools, 13 Performances,  
4,250 Students, 173 Teachers

**•Ontario:**  
11 Schools, 18 Performances,  
4,919 Students, 217 Teachers

**•Upland:**  
1 Schools, 1 Performances,  
65 Students, 3 Teachers



Final Report  
Fall 2011

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# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

## V. INFORMATION

1. Cash Disbursements for December 2011



CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
Cash Disbursements For The Month of  
December 2011

For Informational Purpose Only

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15625	DE BOOM, NATHAN	AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/10/2011	11/10 Ag Pool Mtg		11/10/11 Ag Pool Meeting	8411 - Compensation	25.00
				AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL						125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15626	DURRINGTON, GLEN	AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/10/2011	11/10 Ag Pool Mtg		11/10/11 Ag Pool Meeting	8411 - Compensation	25.00
				AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL						125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15627	FEENSTRA, BOB		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/07/2011	11/07 Personnel Comm		11/07/11 Personnel Committee	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	11/08/2011	11/08 Board Meeting		11/08/11 Special Board Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	11/10/2011	11/10 Ag Pool Mtg		11/10/11 Ag Pool Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Advisory Comm		11/17/11 Advisory Committee Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
TOTAL						625.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15628	HALL, PETE		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Advisory Comm		11/17/11 Advisory Committee Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
TOTAL						250.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15629	HUITSING, JOHN		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/10/2011	11/10 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
TOTAL						125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15630	KOOPMAN, GENE		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/10/2011	11/10 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8411 - Compensation	25.00
				AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL						125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15631	PIERSON, JEFFREY		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/10/2011	11/10 Ag Pool Mtg		11/10/11 Ag Pool Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Advisory Comm		11/17/11 Advisory Committee Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
TOTAL						375.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15632	GRAINGER		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/15/2011	9687071523		9687071523	7103.6 - Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	29.42
Bill	11/15/2011	9688083725		9688083725	7103.6 - Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	191.75
Bill	11/18/2011	9690356895		9690356895	7103.6 - Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	4.54

**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER**  
**Cash Disbursements For The Month of**  
**December 2011**

For Informational Purpose Only

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill	11/16/2011	9690356887		9690356887	7103.6 · Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	8.82
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>234.53</u>
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15633	HOGAN LOVELLS	2626846	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/30/2011	2626846		Non-Ag Legal Services - October2011	8567 · Non-Ag Legal Service	27,060.61
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>27,060.61</u>
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15634	PARK PLAGE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS, INC.	457	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/30/2011	457		IT Services - November 2011	6052.1 · Park Place Comp Solutn	2,550.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>2,550.00</u>
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15635	PUMP CHECK	4447	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/30/2011	4447			7102.8 · In-line Meter-Callib & Test	2,280.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>2,280.00</u>
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15636	YUKON DISPOSAL SERVICE	08-K2 213849	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	12/01/2011	08-K2 213849		Disposal Service - December 2011	6024 · Building Repair & Maintenance	106.53
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>106.53</u>
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15637	BOWCOCK, ROBERT		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/07/2011	11/07 Personnel Comm		11/07/11 Personnel Committee Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>250.00</u>
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15638	ELIE, STEVEN		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/08/2011	11/08 Board Mtg		11/08/11 Special Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>250.00</u>
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15639	HAUGHEY, TOM		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/07/2011	11/07 Personnel Comm		11/07/11 Personnel Committee Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/08/2011	11/08 Board Mtg		11/08/11 Special Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>375.00</u>
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15640	KUHN, BOB		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/07/2011	11/07 Personnel Comm		11/07/11 Personnel Committee Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/08/2011	11/08 Board Mtg		11/08/11 Special Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/10/2011	11/10 Appro Pool		11/10/11 Appropriative Pool Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/23/2011	11/23 Admin Mtg		11/23/11 Administrative Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<u>625.00</u>

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CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
Cash Disbursements For The Month of  
December 2011

For Informational Purpose Only

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15641	LANTZ, PAULA		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	125.00
Bill	11/08/2011	11/08 Board Mtg		11/08/11 Special Board Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	250.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15642	VANDEN HEUVEL, GEOFFREY		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	125.00
Bill	11/08/2011	11/08 Board Mtg		11/08/11 Special Board Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/10/2011	11/10 Ag Pool Mtg		11/10/11 Ag Pool Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	375.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	12/05/2011	15643	WILLIS, KENNETH		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	125.00
Bill	11/07/2011	11/07 Personnel Comm		11/07/11 Personnel Committee Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/08/2011	11/08 Board Mtg		11/08/11 Special Board Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	11/17/2011	11/17 Board Mtg		11/17/11 Board Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	375.00
TOTAL						
General Journal	12/10/2011	12/10/2011	Payroll and Taxes for 11/27/11-12/10/11	Payroll and Taxes for 11/27/11-12/10/11	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	8,800.15
				Payroll Taxes for 11/27/11-12/10/11	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	26,848.65
				Direct Deposits for 11/27/11-12/10/11	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	35,648.80
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15644	APPLIED COMPUTER TECHNOLOGIES	2033	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	2,366.60
Bill	11/30/2011	2033		Database Services - November 2011	6052.2 - Applied Computer Technol	2,366.60
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15645	CALPERS 457 PLAN	Payroll and Taxes for 11/13/11-11/26/11	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	2,805.62
General Journal	11/26/2011	11/26/2011	CALPERS 457 PLAN	457 Employee deductions for 11/13/11-11/26/11	2000 - Accounts Payable	2,805.62
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15646	CHARLES Z. FEDAK & COMPANY	Progress Billing - November 2011	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	1,000.00
Bill	11/30/2011				6062 - Audit Services	1,000.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15647	DC LAW	15668	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	130.00
Bill	11/30/2011	15668		Ag Pool Legal Services - 15668	8467 - Ag Legal & Technical Services	130.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15648	DGO AUTO DETAILING	Wash 3 trucks 11/02/11, 3 trucks 11/30/11	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	150.00
Bill	11/30/2011				6177 - Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance	150.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15649	GRAINGER		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	

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**CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER**  
**Cash Disbursements For The Month of**  
**December 2011**

For Informational Purpose Only

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill	11/30/2011	9697287788		9697287788	7103.6 · Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	9.99
Bill	11/30/2011	9697287770		9697287770	7103.6 · Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	34.81
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>44.30</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15650</b>	<b>GREAT AMERICA LEASING CORP.</b>	<b>11634411</b>	<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
Bill	11/30/2011	11634411		Lease invoice	6043.1 · Ricoh Lease Fee	2,786.53
				Usage for Black Copies	6043.2 · Ricoh Usage & Maintenance Fee	243.05
				Usage for Color Copies	6043.2 · Ricoh Usage & Maintenance Fee	278.67
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>3,310.25</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15651</b>	<b>HSBC BUSINESS SOLUTIONS</b>	<b>7003-7309-1000-2744</b>	<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
Bill	11/30/2011	7003730910002744		Miscellaneous office supplies	6031.7 · Other Office Supplies	560.11
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>560.11</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15652</b>	<b>JAMES JOHNSTON</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
Bill	11/30/2011	248		Website Consulting - November 2011	6052.3 · Website Consulting	810.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>810.00</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15653</b>	<b>MIJAC ALARM</b>	<b>309996</b>	<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
Bill	12/01/2011	309996		Fire District Annual Permit 2011-2012	6026 · Security Services	417.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>417.00</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15654</b>	<b>MWH LABORATORIES</b>		<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
Bill	11/30/2011	L0073587		L0073587	7503 · PE6&7-Contract Svcs (Plume)	1,456.00
Bill	11/30/2011	L0073594		L0073594	7503 · PE6&7-Contract Svcs (Plume)	1,456.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>2,912.00</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15655</b>	<b>PAYCHEX</b>	<b>2011120100</b>	<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
Bill	11/30/2011	2011120100		November 2011	6012 · Payroll Services	479.26
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>479.26</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15656</b>	<b>PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM</b>	<b>Payor #3493</b>	<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
General Journal	11/26/2011	11/26/2011		CalPERS Retirement for 11/13/11-11/26/11	2000 · Accounts Payable	8,357.23
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>8,357.23</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15657</b>	<b>PURCHASE POWER</b>	<b>8000909000168851</b>	<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
Bill	11/30/2011	8000909000168851		Checks to IEUA, SCE, and return to WM	6042 · Postage - General	69.53
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>69.53</b>
<b>Bill Pmt -Check</b>	<b>12/12/2011</b>	<b>15658</b>	<b>RAUCH COMMUNICATION CONSULTANTS, LLC Dec-1205</b>		<b>1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg</b>	
Bill	11/30/2011	Dec-1205		Annual report - progress payment	6061.3 · Rauch	870.00
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>870.00</b>

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Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15669	THE LAWTON GROUP	6017	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/27/2011	1VC070000017859		Week ending 11/27/11	6017 · Temporary Services	494.40
TOTAL						494.40
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15660	UNION 76	300-732-989	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/30/2011	300732989		November 2011	6175 · Vehicle Fuel	290.09
TOTAL						290.09
Bill Pmt -Check	12/12/2011	15661	VERIZON	012519116950792103	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/27/2011	012519116950792103			6022 · Telephone	541.88
Bill	11/29/2011	012561121521714508			7405 · PE4-Other Expense	167.27
TOTAL						709.15
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15662	ACWA SERVICES CORPORATION	00198	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	12/13/2011	00198		Prepayment - January 2012	1409 · Prepaid Life, BAD&D & LTD	129.07
Bill	12/10/2011	12/10/2011		December 2011	60191 · Life & Disab.Ins Benefits	129.06
TOTAL						258.13
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15663	CALPERS 457 PLAN	Payroll and Taxes for 11/27/11-12/10/11	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
General Journal	12/10/2011	12/10/2011	CALPERS 457 PLAN	457 Employee deductions 11/27/11-12/10/11	2000 · Accounts Payable	2,805.62
TOTAL						2,805.62
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15664	COMPUTER NETWORK	Replace motherboard and power supply	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/30/2011	82674		Service/labor HDMI Adapter	6055 · Computer Hardware	281.24
Bill	11/30/2011	82675			6055 · Computer Hardware	626.72
TOTAL						907.96
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15665	CORELOGIC INFORMATION SOLUTIONS	80369041	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	11/30/2011	80369041			7103.7 · Grdwtr Qual-Computer Svc	62.50
Bill	11/30/2011	80369041			7101.4 · Prod Monitor-Computer	62.50
TOTAL						125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15666	CUCAMONGA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT	Lease Due January 1, 2012	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	12/14/2011			Lease Due January 1, 2012	1422 · Prepaid Rent	5,984.00
TOTAL						5,984.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15667	GRAINGER	9695216789	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	12/13/2011	9695216789			7103.6 · Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	17.60
Bill	12/14/2011	9703230289			7103.6 · Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	53.73
TOTAL						71.33
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15668	GROOMAN'S PUMP & WELL DRILLING, INC.	12919	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	12/07/2011	12919			7102.8 · In-line Meter-Callib & Test	373.65

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill	12/07/2011	12915		12915	7102.7 · In-line Meter	578.90
TOTAL						950.55
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15669	GUARANTEED JANITORIAL SERVICE, INC.	28804	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	865.00
Bill	12/13/2011	28804		Janitorial service - December 2011	6024 · Building Repair & Maintenance	865.00
TOTAL						865.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15670	MCCALL'S METER SALES & SERVICE	21714	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	400.19
Bill	11/30/2011	21714			7102.5 · In-line Meter-Computer	675.00
Bill	11/30/2011	21748			7102.8 · In-line Meter-Callib & Test	800.38
Bill	11/30/2011	21748			7102.5 · In-line Meter-Computer	675.00
Bill	11/30/2011	21748			7102.8 · In-line Meter-Callib & Test	675.00
TOTAL						2,550.57
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15671	PREMIERE GLOBAL SERVICES	10078133	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	24.96
Bill	11/30/2011	10078133		Monthly and service fees	6022 · Telephone	11.59
Bill	11/30/2011	10078133		11/02 Appropriate Pool Agenda call	8312 · Meeting Expenses	11.59
Bill	11/30/2011	10078133		11/02 Ag Pool Agenda call	8412 · Meeting Expenses	11.59
Bill	11/30/2011	10078133		11/02 Non Ag Pool Agenda call	8512 · Meeting Expense	11.59
Bill	11/30/2011	10078133		Storage call	7604 · PE&S-Supplies	7.90
Bill	11/30/2011	10078133		11/10 Non Ag Pool mtg call	8512 · Meeting Expense	132.98
Bill	11/30/2011	10078133		11/10 Non Ag Pool mtg call	8512 · Meeting Expense	1.07
Bill	11/30/2011	10078133		11/15 CGC meeting call	6909.1 · OBMP Meetings	247.72
TOTAL						449.40
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15672	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM	Payor #3483	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	8,321.12
General Journal	12/10/2011	12/10/2011	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM	CalPERS Retirement for 11/27/11-12/10/11	2000 · Accounts Payable	8,321.12
TOTAL						8,321.12
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15673	SAFEGUARD DENTAL & VISION	4081215	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	7.91
Bill	12/13/2011	4081215		Dental premium - December 2011	60182.2 · Dental & Vision Ins	7.91
TOTAL						7.91
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15674	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL I	Permit P-11996284	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	1,977.00
Bill	12/13/2011	Permit P-11996284		Permit Annual Inspection/71me Extension fees	6909.3 · Other OBMP Expenses	1,977.00
TOTAL						1,977.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15675	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	501.21
Bill	11/30/2011	8020386919		Miscellaneous office supplies	6031.7 · Other Office Supplies	212.68
Bill	12/10/2011	8020451934		Miscellaneous office supplies	6031.7 · Other Office Supplies	212.68
TOTAL						713.89
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15676	STAULA, MARY L	Retiree Medical	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER  
Cash Disbursements For The Month of  
December 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill	12/14/2011				60182.4 · Retiree Medical	136.61
TOTAL						136.61
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15677	THE LAWTON GROUP	6017	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	824.00
Bill	11/30/2011	1VC0700000178991		Week ending 12/04/11	6017 · Temporary Services	824.00
TOTAL						824.00
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15678	VERIZON BUSINESS	62349871	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	1,545.23
Bill	12/14/2011	62349871			6053 · Internet Expense	1,545.23
TOTAL						1,545.23
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15679	VERIZON WIRELESS	1036508753	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	280.51
Bill	12/14/2011	1036508753		Monthly service	6022 · Telephone	280.51
TOTAL						280.51
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15680	WESTERN DENTAL SERVICES, INC.	002483	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	28.88
Bill	12/13/2011	002483		Dental premium - January 2012	60182.2 · Dental & Vision Ins	28.88
TOTAL						28.88
Bill Pmt -Check	12/20/2011	15681	BANK OF AMERICA	XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-9341	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	129.67
Bill	11/30/2011	XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-9341		Plaque for Ken Willis	6031.7 · Other Office Supplies	590.47
				Thanksgiving lunch-11/17/11-Board meeting	6312 · Meeting Expenses	18.66
				Fedex charges	6042 · Postage - General	738.80
TOTAL						129.67
General Journal	12/24/2011	12/24/2011	Payroll and Taxes for 12/11/11-12/24/11		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	9,730.48
					1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	27,228.02
					1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	36,958.50
TOTAL					Total Disbursements:	164,407.02

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# CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

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# New Report Says Investing in Water Efficiency Boosts Jobs, Local Economies

Submitted by Lisa Lien-Mager on Wed, 01/04/2012 - 2:47pm in [Water News](#)

Investments in water use efficiency stimulate jobs and provide a boost for local economies, a new report by the Los Angeles-based Economic Roundtable says.



The report analyzed 53 recent water use efficiency projects in the Los Angeles area, including stormwater capture, water conservation, groundwater treatment / remediation and construction of water recycling facilities. It found that the \$1.2 billion invested in the projects created a significant number of jobs and stimulated an additional \$1.2 billion in indirect and induced sales.

According to the report, every \$1 million invested in water efficiency-related projects creates 12.6 to 16.6 jobs in the Los Angeles economy and stimulates nearly \$2 million in total sales. As a comparison, the report said, water use efficiency projects in Los Angeles stimulate more jobs per \$1 million invested than motion picture and video production (8.3 jobs / \$1 million invested) and housing construction (11.3 jobs / \$1 million).

To maximize the benefits of investing in local water use efficiency, the report recommends that policy makers and stakeholders keep investments local and distribute funding over a number of diverse water use efficiency projects, as opposed to concentrating investments in a few massive projects.

"Local investments not only produce large multiplier effects where water users live and work, but also support better stewardship of this precious resource by residential and commercial water consumers," the report notes. "Also, local investments return taxpayer dollars to the areas where they are generated."

The full report is available [here](#).

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## REGION: Watershed tested for traces of medications

BY JANET ZIMMERMAN

STAFF WRITER

[zimmerman@pe.com](mailto:zimmerman@pe.com)

Published: 04 January 2012 05:18

PM

The agency that manages the giant watershed draining out of the San Bernardino Mountains has found only negligible traces of medications, insecticides and other non-regulated chemicals in the region's water supplies for the second year in a row, according to a report.

Officials with the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority said the concentrations found do not pose a health threat. The amounts were so small, they could be detected only with sensitive analytical technology designed to find the equivalent of one drop in 20 Olympic-size pools.

Acetaminophen was found at seven of the 27 sampling sites, but it was in such low concentrations that a person would have to drink more than 2 million gallons of treated wastewater to ingest the equivalent of one 500-milligram Tylenol tablet, according to the report.

"As science gives us increasingly sensitive instruments to be able to detect smaller and smaller trace elements, we've decided to use that technology and see what we can see," said Celeste Cantu, general manager of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, said Wednesday.

The products, which are excreted by the body and flushed or washed into the water system, are known as "emerging constituents" because they are detectable only in small amounts. The agency's testing was voluntary.

Last year, tests were run for 13 products including ibuprofen, hormones and bisphenol A, a plastic coating voluntarily removed from many products because it has been linked to development problems in fetuses and children. Testing was conducted at wastewater treatment plants, streams and aqueducts, and the results were submitted to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board.

"Our work was used by the State Water Resources Control Board to come out with their emerging constituents standards. It's really foundational work that is beyond what is being required by the regulatory authorities," Cantu said.

The highest findings in the report were for ibuprofen; gemfibrozil, an anti-cholesterol medicine; and sulfamethoxazole, an antibiotic used to treat malaria, conjunctivitis, toxoplasmosis and urinary tract infections.

Cantu urged people to properly dispose of medications and not flush them down the toilet. Pills should be crushed, wetted or mixed with coffee grounds, decaying food or kitty litter, and disposed of in household trash.

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*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California*

# NEWS RELEASE

*P. O. Box 54153, Los Angeles, California 90054-0153 • (213) 217-6485 • [www.mwdh2o.com](http://www.mwdh2o.com)*

Contact: Bob Muir, (213) 217-6930; (213) 324-5213, mobile

Jan. 4, 2012

## SUPERIOR COURT MAKES SERIES OF RULINGS IN LAWSUIT CHALLENGING METROPOLITAN RATE STRUCTURE

The Superior Court for the County of San Francisco today took a series of actions related to the San Diego County Water Authority's challenge of Metropolitan Water District's water rate structure.

Most important to Metropolitan, the court sustained the district's demurrer to the Water Authority's breach of fiduciary duty claim against the district, without leave to amend the complaint.

"This eliminates from the case SDCWA's allegations that Metropolitan and its member agencies engaged in any improper procedures in adopting rates or taking other board actions," stated interim MWD General Counsel Marcia Scully in a memo to the district's Board of Directors this afternoon.

The court also sustained Metropolitan's demurrer to SDCWA's cause of action for breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing in the exchange agreement involving San Diego's water transfer with Imperial Irrigation District based on MWD's adoption and implementation of the Rate Structure Integrity language, without leave to amend. That language is contained in Metropolitan's resource contracts with its member agencies.

A demurrer is a request for dismissal because the allegations are not sufficient to state a claim, even if they are accepted as true. These rulings eliminate these causes of action from the case.

"Although the court denied Metropolitan's motion to strike the fiduciary duty claim, the ruling on the demurrer makes this denial irrelevant," Scully said in the memo.

The Water Authority's motion to award attorney's fees against Metropolitan for allegedly frivolous filing of the motion to strike was denied, with the court finding that the motion was not frivolous because the court sustained MWD's demurrer.

more . . . . .

The Water Authority's separate cause of action challenging Metropolitan's adoption and implementation of the Rate Structure Integrity language was not addressed by the court today.

The court overruled Metropolitan's demurrer to the Water Authority's claim that MWD breached the exchange agreement by charging illegal rates. This cause of action remains in the case; however, it will be resolved as a part of the determination of the legality of the rates when the first three causes of action are addressed.

The court also overruled Metropolitan's demurrer to the Water Authority's claim alleging San Diego's payments pursuant to the exchange agreement should be credited to SDCWA's preferential rights. The court, however, deferred ruling on the merits and expressly invited a subsequent motion to address this question.

The hearing is scheduled to continue this Friday (Jan. 6) at 2 p.m. At that time, the court is expected to consider Imperial Irrigation District's motion to obtain discovery relating to the original action challenging the rates and Metropolitan's motion to bifurcate the initial rate challenge from the remaining causes of action in SDCWA's first amended petition filed last October.

The Water Authority originally filed its case in June 2010 as a reverse validation action challenging water rates adopted by Metropolitan in April 2010. IID and the Utility Consumers' Action Network joined the case supporting the Water Authority.

Eight Metropolitan member agencies—the city of Glendale, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, city of Torrance, Foothill Municipal Water District, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, the Municipal Water District of Orange County, Three Valleys Municipal Water District and West Basin Municipal Water District—joined the case supporting the district.

Last October, the Water Authority filed its first amended complaint alleging additional causes of action, including breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, the unconstitutionality of Metropolitan's Rate Structure Integrity language; and wrongful calculation of San Diego's preferential rights.

Metropolitan staff will provide a detailed discussion of the court action in closed session at the MWD board's Legal and Claims Committee meeting next Tuesday (Jan. 10).

More information on the lawsuit is available on Metropolitan's website, [www.mwdh2o.com](http://www.mwdh2o.com).

###

*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving nearly 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.*




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# TIME

Monday, Jan. 03, 2011

## Is Southern California Finally Getting Serious About Its Water Crisis?

By Jens Erik Gould / Los Angeles

To quench the thirst of Southern California's some 20 million people, water must be imported from hundreds of miles away, across a daunting array of deserts, valleys and mountains. For decades, Angelenos have muttered a doomsday refrain: our water supply isn't sustainable, and we are going to have to get smarter about managing it - at some point. The obviousness of the problem, however, instilled a kind of panicked lassitude. The discussion became predictable: alarm would set in during times of drought, as authorities talked of restrictions and plans to boost local water sources. Then rainy years would follow, and L.A. and its surrounding cities would move on to other, supposedly more pressing issues. Through it all, the mentality remained the same: sprinklers outside city buildings and private homes continued to feed large lawns even while it was raining, using water brought from far away.

Now authorities are once again saying the time has come for a change. They say they're going to follow through. Should we believe them? ([See "Forget Irene: The Drought in Texas Is the Catastrophe That Could Really Hurt."](#))

Maybe. Simply because Southern California may no longer have a choice but to stop its lavish ways. Sometime in January, authorities will again limit the amount of water that the California Aqueduct transports from northern mountains and substitute it with water from reservoirs. That's been happening in the winter and spring seasons ever since environmental protections imposed limits on water that passes through the Sacramento-San Joaquin delta in a bid to protect endangered smelt. The measures are designed to protect the fish from being drawn into large pumps and killed when the State Water Project pumps water at high volumes. Conservation groups and fishing groups have championed the measures ever since a judge put them in place four years ago. But the protections are a huge point of contention for local water agencies and farmers who have lost their water supply. Both have launched a series of legal challenges that haven't prevailed. "We've been in court nonstop since 2006 on these biological opinions - with either environmental groups suing, saying they're not strict enough, or us suing, saying they're too strict," says Jeffrey Kightlinger, general manager for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

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Southern California water officials have reason to be nervous. Dependence on imported water sources enabled Los Angeles to grow into the metropolis it is today. About half of Southern California's supply is still brought in from the delta and the Colorado River. The region spent the past decade dealing with a decrease in its share of Colorado River water. Now authorities say the smelt protection measures are costing the region about one-quarter of the water it imports from the delta, driving up rates for an ever growing population. "It has really cut into the reliability of our imported water supply," Kightlinger says.

This year water isn't as much of a concern because the state has received a lot of rain and reservoirs are full. But in a drought — one gripped California at the end of the last decade and is likely to return — the issue of delta water becomes a battleground. "Now we're in a situation where we have to make some serious trade-offs between protecting the environment and providing water," says David Ginsburg, professor of environmental studies at the University of Southern California. "You can't have your cake and eat it too. I don't think it's sustainable." (See ["Droughts Getting Worse Across Southern U.S. and Somalia."](#))

Some environmentalists are suspicious of any promises to move in the direction of self-sufficiency. They cite official figures that 54% of single-family home water is still used outdoors. They're urging Californians to do more to collect rainwater and substitute their green lawns with native plant species that are more drought-friendly. Emily Green, who blogs and writes a column about garden conservation for the Los Angeles *Times*, has urged officials to plant native species such as sycamores, lilacs or Engelmann oaks outside city hall after the tent city installed by Occupy Los Angeles destroyed its lawn. "From the time the big water projects were built, L.A. was really hardwired to grow on imported water. That was the game plan," Green said in an interview. "The mind-set is changing, but it's changing very slowly."

Others, however, are impressed with the progress the region is making. Officials point out that 20 years ago, about two-thirds of its water was imported; today it's down to half. Total retail water demand in the region has also fallen from just under 4 million acre feet in fiscal year 1989–90 to 3.35 million acre feet in 2010–11, according to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. To further increase local supply — which is much cheaper than imported water — authorities are investing in water-recycling plants to capture more storm water before drains flush it into the ocean; they also plan to clean up contamination so more groundwater can be used. And they're putting more emphasis on conservation efforts, which helped water-use levels in the city of L.A. hit the lowest levels since the 1970s last year, according to the Department of Water and Power. The city has implemented a mandatory water-conservation program that includes measures like restricting sprinkler watering to two days a week.

"There's a bit of a paradigm shift going on now," says Doug Obegi, an attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council who focuses on water issues. "The old paradigm was to take more water out of our rivers and out of the delta. The new one is to invest in regional and local supplies and be smarter about using water. It's hard to see all those little incremental changes making Southern California less reliant on the delta, but it is happening." Is it happening fast enough? The next drought will most likely provide the answer.



# CONTRA COSTA TIMES

ContraCostaTimes.com

## New Delta invader, spongeplant, threatens to clog waterways, pumps

By Mike Taugher  
Contra Costa Times

Posted: 12/20/2011 03:23:35 PM PST

Updated: 12/21/2011 06:48:33 AM PST

An invasive weed just now taking hold in the Delta could clog water delivery pumps and marinas on a scale never seen here, and state officials say they are nearly hamstrung in trying to deal with it.

Few have even heard of the new threat, South American spongeplant, because it has been found only recently and in just a few places, all in California.

But what they have seen so far has alarmed experts.

"Your jaw drops at what's going to happen," said Lars Anderson, a weed scientist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's agricultural research service. "The weeds don't stop." Anderson and other experts say that if it is not controlled or eradicated, spongeplant could become a bigger problem than water hyacinth, one of the world's most troublesome water weeds. The state spends more than \$2 million a year to control the hyacinths, established in the Delta for several decades, so water delivery pumps can work and boats can move about.

The spongeplant, like water hyacinth, floats on the surface and threatens to clog channels with impenetrable masses of weeds.

But because it is smaller, spongeplant could spread more easily and get deeper into pumps and water works. It is a prolific seed-bearer, unlike water hyacinth, meaning it could be even harder to eradicate, experts say.

"I think we're going to see a large expansion of spongeplant in the next three to five years if nothing is done," Anderson said. "It's very

serious."

Although the invasion was detected early, weed control agencies say they lack the legal authority to spend state money to attack it.

Drifting in a small boat toward a stand of tules at Decker Island, between Antioch and Rio Vista, state Department of Food and Agriculture weed biologists David Kratville and Jonathan Heintz spotted some spongeplant among the tules, hyacinth and several other kinds of weeds.

"You can see how densely packed it is," Heintz said.

Kratville separated a small floating seedling from a larger mat of weeds and explained how easily it could float away and spread.

For now, large mats of spongeplant can be removed fairly easily by scooping it out of the water with heavy equipment. But as it becomes established, herbicides may be needed.

If it does become established, how bad will it get?

"We don't want to find out the hard way," Kratville said.

Named for the spongy leaves that keep them afloat, spongeplants likely made their way into the Delta from backyard ponds containing the ornamental plant. Though they are the newest intruder in the West Coast's largest estuary, they carry a practical threat -- the Delta is a water source for two-thirds of California, and serious weed infestations can clog pumps and canals, making it more difficult and expensive to keep water flowing to farms and cities.

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# CONTRA COSTA TIMES

ContraCostaTimes.com

Spongeplant was first detected in California in 2003, when a dense mat choked a pond in Redding. In 2007, it turned up in the Delta near Antioch but disappeared after a rainstorm.

It reappeared in 2009 in the western Delta, where it appears to be taking hold.

Weed experts say that because the infestation was detected early, there is a good chance it can be eradicated or controlled relatively easily. But money to do that is tied up. By law, state weed control agencies can spend money to attack only a handful of specified water weeds, including water hyacinth, Brazilian water weed and hydrilla.

State officials are sensitive to the possibility that lawmakers might yank on their purse-strings if they divert funds intended for one problem to attack another, especially in tight budget times, said Duane Schnabel, who heads the state Food and Agriculture Department's integrated pest control branch.

That has prevented the state Department of Food and Agriculture from more aggressively looking for and removing spongeplant, even though the rule of thumb is that every dollar spent on the problem in the early stages of infestation might save \$100 worth of work that could be needed later, he said.

Such an attack on spongeplants now could "avoid that catastrophic infestation" like water hyacinth, Schnabel said.

Assemblywoman Joan Buchanan, D-San Ramon, is looking into introducing legislation next year to help them, according to her chief of staff, Susanna Schlendorf.

"We are doing some investigation on it because there's growing evidence that it's spreading more quickly than some of these other species," Schlendorf said.

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## News

### STATE TWEAKS CANAL PLAN PROCESS STILL, CRITICS SAY AGREEMENT REMAINS 'DEEPLY FLAWED'

By **Alex Breitler**  
December 20, 2011  
Record Staff Writer

Still facing sharp criticism from Delta-area lawmakers, Gov. Jerry Brown and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced more changes Monday in the planning process for a possible peripheral canal or tunnel.

The changes, according to an announcement, will "ensure a fair, open and transparent process."

But one federal representative compared Monday's action to "sanding off some of the rough edges" of a plan that is "beholden to the special interests who are funding it."

The familiar flurry of rhetoric comes as the 5-year-old Bay Delta Conservation Plan continues to develop. About \$240 million is expected to be spent writing the plan, with the money coming from the water agencies that stand to benefit should a canal or tunnel be built to facilitate the export of Delta water to Southern California.

Of late, attention has focused on a new agreement to continue working on the plan. The agreement was written in a way that could allow the water agencies greater editorial influence than other interests, the Legislative Analyst's Office has found.

Delta-area lawmakers asked the government to rescind the agreement. In response, officials first opened it up to public comment, and then promised to make draft scientific reports available to everyone at the same time instead of giving water agencies first dibs.

Now, among other new provisions announced Monday, the agreement clarifies that the plan is to serve both water supply and environmental purposes; it reiterates the authority of wildlife agencies to decide whether permits should be issued; and it specifies that consultants who write the plan must first be approved by the state Department of Water Resources.

"It is clear that our Delta ecosystem needs repair and restoration," Brown said. "We shouldn't wait for a natural disaster to force our hand. This agreement takes us in the right direction to protect California's water supply."

Rep. George Miller, D-Martinez, said the changes announced Monday were akin to sanding off the rough edges.

And Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton, said the agreement remains "deeply flawed and is an affront to the people of the Delta communities."

Jim Metropulos of the Sierra Club said officials should have withdrawn the agreement and renegotiated the terms. Instead, the agreement was revised.

Monday's announcement also included commitments to work with other stakeholders on a "statement of principles" and a monthly review of what officials have admitted is an "aggressive" schedule. Under the agreement, a draft plan would be written by June.

Not all lawmakers are critical of the plan. Twenty-one state legislators signed a letter Monday urging state and federal officials to "keep the process on track" with the release of the draft Bay Delta Conservation Plan next year.

Contact reporter Alex Breitler at (209) 546-8295 or [abreitler@recordnet.com](mailto:abreitler@recordnet.com). Visit his blog at [recordnet.com/breitlerblog](http://recordnet.com/breitlerblog).

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latimes.com/news/local/la-me-water-study-20111220,0,7451512.story

**latimes.com**

## Costs mount for Glendale's ongoing inquiry into chromium 6

**Research on removing the cancer-causing contaminant from groundwater has slogged on for nine years, and some officials are getting impatient.**

By Brittany Levine, Los Angeles Times

December 20, 2011

The costs keep piling up as a project to study chromium 6 removal becomes a bigger expense than expected for Glendale, which has been trudging through nine years of research to strip the cancer-causing contaminant from groundwater.

Although the City Council last week approved spending an additional \$400,000 to continue research at two testing facilities — just two months after the council gave the green light to spend \$550,000 in grant and state funding on more research — some city officials are getting antsy.

"This has been going on for a number of years," said Councilman Rafi Manoukian. "I want to get this thing done and over with."

Cities throughout the San Fernando Valley have been grappling with chromium 6 contamination caused decades ago by aerospace manufacturing. Glendale has spent more than \$7.8 million on removal research, most of which has come from state grants and other funding sources.

Peter Kavounas, assistant general manager for water services at Glendale Water & Power, said he too was frustrated by the slow process. But he said research takes time, especially as the state moves slowly to set tighter restrictions on chromium 6 levels.

"We are very much aligned in the same line of thought that we need to bring this to an end," Kavounas said. But he added, "Research by definition is something difficult to predict when it will end."

In about four years, the state may cap chromium 6 levels at between 5 and 10 parts per billion, much lower than the current 50 parts per billion limit, Kavounas said. After being treated and blended with clean imports, Glendale's water is already at about 5 parts per billion of chromium 6. Before treatment, underground water from some local wells contains between 45 and 70 parts per billion.

Although Glendale has settled on two methods for stripping the chemical from water, more research about side effects is needed, Kavounas said.

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Kavounas said the research began as a focused study but grew larger as the field of chromium 6 removal expanded. In addition, state officials say they will look to Glendale's research as they set tighter restrictions, which has expanded the scope of the city's research.

Part of the \$400,000 will cover requests by the Environmental Protection Agency and California Department of Public Health for additional cost information, according to a city report.

The money will also keep two testing facilities open through April. Then the city will deactivate one, and a group made up of companies responsible for the presence of chromium 6 will take control of the other.

[brittany.levine@latimes.com](mailto:brittany.levine@latimes.com)

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# Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture

UC Riverside scholar co-edits timely handbook on the subject

(December 19, 2011)

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – When climatic patterns shift, the spatial distribution of croplands, habitats and fish populations soon follows, significantly impacting agriculture and food production. For example, droughts, floods and storms frequently kill livestock and damage crops, and impact world market prices and food availability.

Ariel Dinar, the director of the Water Science and Policy Center at the University of California, Riverside, and Robert Mendelsohn at Yale University have co-edited a “Handbook on Climate Change and Agriculture” (Edward Elgar Publishing Inc., December 2011) that explores, as its title suggests, the interaction between climate change and agriculture.

With contributions from international scholars, the handbook analyzes a variety of topics, including direct agronomic effects, economic impacts on agriculture, agricultural impacts on the economy, agricultural mitigation, and farmer adaptation. The authors argue that climate change is likely to have a large impact on agriculture around the world; this impact would be manifest through changes in temperature, precipitation, concentrations of carbon dioxide, and available water flows.

“Developing countries already face food problems,” said Dinar, a professor of environmental economics and policy. “The effects of climate change on agriculture in these and other countries will depend on how well the agricultural sector can adapt through technology institutions, and better management practices. Developing countries are better able to engage in adaptation since mitigation is much harder for these countries to do.”

Dinar mentioned that this is the first book to use a multidisciplinary approach in providing up-to-date information about the impact of climate change on agriculture. According to him, the handbook would be helpful to anyone interested in exploring the impacts of climate change on agriculture and agriculture’s ability to adapt.

The book’s chapters tackle a number of issues, including the mitigation of the effects of climate change, adaptation to climate change, the future of bio-fuel, and the “Clean Development Mechanism,” which allows some countries to meet their carbon dioxide reduction obligations in a cost-effective way and has resulted in nearly 8000 projects worldwide.

Dinar began researching climate change in 1994 when he saw its impact neatly displayed in a set of color maps he came across of the United States. He realized then that a cartographic approach could be applied to study the impact of climate change in developing countries.

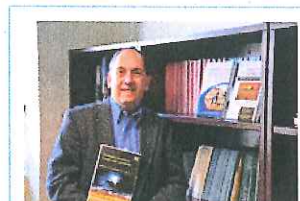
“The livelihood of people and nations is crucially dependent on agriculture, especially in the developing world,” he said. “The economic, social and political ramifications of any impact on agriculture are, therefore, significant.”

It became evident to Dinar in 1994 that agriculture had been largely neglected in climate change studies. He decided to research the topic.

“It soon became clear to me that people did not know much about adaptation to the effects of climate change,” he said. “The net effect of climate change on agricultural production is still not well understood. It’s not just the production of food from crops that is involved, but also livestock. Agriculture suffers from climate change, but it also contributes to it through land use and abuse, as well as the adoption of practices that are unsustainable where climate change is concerned such as unsuitable cropping patterns and irrigation technologies.”

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*Ariel Dinar is the director of the Water Science and Policy Center at UC Riverside. Photo credit: UCR Strategic Communications.*

The "Handbook on Climate Change and Agriculture" took two years to edit.

"Two factors kept us on schedule: The book was thoroughly planned, and all the contributors were extremely responsive," Dinar said.

#### RELATED LINKS

- [More about Ariel Dinar](#)
- [Water Science and Policy Center](#)
- [Department of Environmental Sciences](#)
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#### ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

- [Ariel Dinar](#)

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## **Cuyamaca College to provide training in water resources and wastewater technology**

by Staff Reporter | Posted: Monday, December 19, 2011 4:30 pm

RANCHO SAN DIEGO - As water becomes an increasingly precious resource in California, more public water agencies and businesses are hiring experts to help customers find ways to better conserve water. To meet this growing demand, Cuyamaca College has been awarded a \$535,000 state grant to lead a partnership of seven California community colleges that will provide more training for jobs in the water and wastewater field.

Matched with \$1 million in in-kind services from the water industry and colleges, the 21-month grant will allow Cuyamaca College and the other six colleges in the consortium to create and share curriculum that will be available to all of California's 112 community colleges looking to start or upgrade their job training programs for this critical job sector.

The Rancho San Diego college was a natural to lead the statewide effort with its longstanding water/wastewater technology program, one of the largest and most successful in California. Fewer than 20 of California's community colleges now offer degrees or certificates in water/wastewater technology.

"Cuyamaca College has long been a leader in workforce training for green jobs and the water industry," said Mark J. Zacovic, Cuyamaca College president. "I'm pleased that we will be able to share our knowledge and experience in this field."

Studies have shown that the median age of employees in the water industry is 50, and nearly 40 percent are expected to retire within the next five to seven years. As many as 18,000 workers will be needed in the water industry, with more than 4,500 new jobs expected to be filled in the next three years just in southern California.

The projected shortage of workers, coupled with increased demands for water conservation, led to the creation of a new major in water resource management at Cuyamaca College beginning in fall 2012. Once approved by the state Community College Chancellor's Office, the curriculum for the new courses offered for that major will be available to other community colleges statewide.

"Instead of starting from scratch, they can take examples of courses and modify them for their own use," said Don Jones, program coordinator of Cuyamaca's water/wastewater technology program and the primary author of the grant.

Other colleges that will be participating with Cuyamaca in the grant are:



- College of the Redwoods (Eureka)
- Santa Rosa Junior College (Sonoma County)
- Gavilan College (Gilroy/Salinas)
- College of the Canyons (Santa Clarita/Valencia)
- Santiago Canyon College (Orange County)
- Taft College (Kern County)

The major in water resource management at Cuyamaca is the result of a unique collaboration between the college's renowned ornamental horticulture department and the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College. Students will learn about using drought-tolerant plants and irrigation methods that save water when creating landscaping plans for a home or business.

In addition to the Water Conservation Garden, the college will also be partnering on the grant with the San Diego County Water Authority, city of San Diego Public Utilities Department, the Helix Water District and the Otay Water District.

With the addition of the new major in water resource management, Cuyamaca College will have one of most comprehensive offerings of water-industry programs in the state. The college already offers programs in water treatment, water distribution, wastewater treatment, wastewater collection and cross-connection control. About 400 students take classes each semester in water/wastewater technology, with virtually all of the courses taught by experts working in the field.

"We are always looking for ways to tailor our programs to the demands of the workforce," said Bill Garrett, president of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District board. "This is just another example of the innovative ways that Grossmont and Cuyamaca colleges are in the forefront for training the workforce of tomorrow."



## Water board investigates perchlorate contamination source

By [KATIE LUCIA](#), staff writer

2011-12-18 08:57:39



**BARSTOW** • It's been more than a year since officials discovered perchlorate in Barstow's drinking water, but a new wave of tests by water experts conducted last week should determine the extent of the plume.

Geologists and water experts began drilling and sampling groundwater Dec. 12. The sample areas are downgrade from 30433 Poplar Lane, an area believe to be the source of last year's perchlorate contamination, according to a release from the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board. The team finished sampling the 20 sample points Friday.

In Nov. 2010, Golden State Water Company discovered one of their wells close to the Soapmine Road area was contaminated with perchlorates — a substance often used in the production of fireworks, rocket fuel and road flares. That well is no longer in operation, according to John Dewey, spokesperson for Golden State.

According to the release, the federal Environmental Protection Agency found high concentrations of perchlorate in the soil around Poplar Street in northern Barstow during an investigation of the contamination earlier this year. The investigation also found perchlorate in two private wells on Poplar Street and in Golden State's former public water supply well.

Federal, state, and local agencies are still investigating the former owners of a property the EPA believes to be the source of the perchlorate contamination. Former Mojave River Pyrotechnics Company, which ceased operation in the '80s, is believed to have illegally dumped chemicals containing perchlorate salts on the property. EPA investigators handling this case were not available for comment.

Results of the samples should be available in February said Tim Post, engineering geologist with the water board. Post explained that the water board was sampling only areas downgrade of the contamination source, where the water contamination was most likely to spread. In order to accurately define the plume Post said those sample points on the outskirts must test negative for perchlorate. If not, the board will have to continue sampling next year.

*Additional reporting by Karen Jonas.*

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## Local water agency hopes buying desert water may provide 'insurance' for dry years

Joe Blackstock and Andrew Edwards, Staff Writers

Created: 12/17/2011 06:08:41 AM PST

The Three Valleys Municipal Water District is one step closer to sealing the deal for an "insurance" policy for a new source of water for its 600,000 customers.

The district, serving the far eastern end of Los Angeles County, is part of a group of water distributors considering a plan to bring water from a remote Mojave Desert site to eastern Los Angeles County.

"It is a huge deal," said Richard Hansen, general manager for Three Valleys in Claremont. "I look at this as insurance. Nobody likes to pay for insurance, but when you need it, you thank your lucky stars you have it."

A Los Angeles company has proposed to pump 50,000 acre-feet of water a year from its holdings in the Cadiz Valley in the Mojave, 50 miles southwest of Needles.

A 42-mile pipeline would be built by the Cadiz Co. to deliver its water with the Metropolitan Water District's Colorado River Aqueduct to the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

Three Valleys, which provides wholesale water to 13 retail water agencies, would be able to receive up to 5,000 acre-feet of water each year from Cadiz. An acre-foot is generally considered the amount of water used by a suburban Southwest family over a year.

"We were approached about this a couple of

years ago, during a drought period," Hansen said. "We figured there would be no risk to be at the table, just to listen to the idea."

The plans have evolved to the point that an environmental report on the entire

project has been produced and is undergoing public comment.

Three Valleys has spent \$125,000 to help pay for the environmental study. If the agency decides not to join with Cadiz the money will be refunded.

Hansen said the water from this proposed plan would give Three Valleys "operational flexibility," especially in those years when MWD may not be able to supply all the water wholesaler's needs.

There is a good chance the Cadiz water may initially cost slightly more than MWD's supplies. However, by signing a long-term contract with Cadiz, "water costs 10, 15, 20 years down the road may be lower than MWD," Hansen said.

Three Valleys, San Dimas-based Golden State Water Co. and Jurupa Community Services District are participants with the Santa Margarita Water District in Orange County, which is serving as the lead agency. Santa Margarita's board of

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directors will be responsible for deciding whether to certify the environmental impact report.

Cadiz Co. CEO Scott Slater describes the proposed endeavor as a "conservation project" that would provide a method to use water that would otherwise evaporate into the air above a dry lake bed.

What's more, the pipeline itself would be built alongside an existing rail line in order to stay away from untouched desert land, he said.

"Our chances of environmental disruption should be reduced," Slater said.

But those promises must still be weighed against the the new pipeline's environmental impacts, which are outlined in the nearly 3,000-page report released earlier this month.

Aside from the air pollution that equipment would emit during construction, the environmental report generally gives favorable marks to the Cadiz proposal and projects the pipeline would have almost no significant long-term impacts on environmental resources.

But the report itself is subject to public review, and the National Parks Conservation Association has been studying the report to double-check the science, said Seth Shtier, the group's California desert field representative.

"We're concerned about the way pumping of groundwater may affect the Mojave National Preserve, and we're also concerned about air quality," he said.

The air quality concerns stem from the worry that if the Cadiz Valley's dry lake beds become too dry, their surfaces would become a new source of dust for the surrounding desert.

Interested parties can submit comments on the report until Feb. 13. The report is available at

[smwd.com](http://smwd.com).

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## **REDLANDS: Water meter calibration program brings more revenue**

BY JAN SEARS  
STAFF WRITER

[jsears@pe.com](mailto:jsears@pe.com)

Published: 16 December 2011

01:38 PM

A Redlands municipal utilities program to test and calibrate large water meters is likely to return more than three times the project's cost in revenue from city water users who had been undercharged, city officials said this week.

The city in February allocated up to \$50,000 for the first phase of a project to test and calibrate large water meters, which are three inches or more in diameter. Such meters typically are installed for large water users, such as commercial and industrial customers and large apartment complexes, city spokesman Carl Baker said.

"We spent less than the \$50,000 and expect to get back more than \$150,000 in revenue," he said.

City workers tested 104 of the city's 300 large meters, repaired and recalibrated 21 meters and replaced seven. Improper calibration can result in incorrect water flow readings and under-billing on high water users, Baker said. The meters' average age is 10 years and there are no records of them ever being calibrated.

"These are large commercial and industrial customers who can better afford to pay those bills" than the small residential user, Baker said.

The increase in revenue, which is expected to be \$152,339 per year, will go into the Municipal Utilities and Engineering Department's budget and will help the city avoid raising water rates in the future, he said.

Last April, the Redlands City Council approved an unpopular water rate increase. Councilmen Jon Harrison and Jerry Bean voted against the 17.5 percent increase, which took effect in May and will play out over three years.

More than 100 city residents attended the council meeting and most objected to the rate hike, which they said they couldn't afford.

City water rates went up by 5.5 percent in May. They will increase by 6 percent next year and by the same amount in 2013.

The city will test the remaining 196 3-inch meters in the second and third phases of the calibration program. Staff could not estimate the potential revenue increase from those remaining meters, Baker said.

"The remainder probably won't return quite as much," he said. "We looked at the largest users first and probably got the biggest proportion in this first phase."





## Water concerns linger despite rains

By Mike Lee

Tuesday, December 13, 2011



A new poll by Field Research shows California residents remain worried about longterm water supplies even though reservoirs are at or near record levels.

The survey was conducted in late November for the Association of California Water Agencies, an alliance of departments that deliver water to most of the state's residents. It's part of a long walk-up toward a November 2012 vote on a bond that would pay for upgrades and expansion to the state's aging water supply system.

Three-fourths of respondents cited concern about water, with 28 percent "extremely" concerned and 47 percent "somewhat" concerned. In addition, 84 percent said the state has major water problems and must invest in its water infrastructure to ensure future reliability.

Mark DiCamillo, senior vice president with Field Research, said the findings show water remains a significant issue even though the economy is dominant.

"You still have a significant majority saying they are concerned about water," said a statement by DiCamillo, who has surveyed Californians regarding water and other issues for more than 20 years. "There is also a core base of support for investing public dollars in upgrading and expanding the state's water system through a water bond. That base is about 40 percent, with another 22 percent that is sympathetic and inclined to feel that way."

Field Research polled 1,000 registered voters in English and Spanish between Nov. 15 and 27.

Water association officials seized on the results.

"At a time when the public is hypersensitive about how dollars are spent, investing in water infrastructure may be in a class by itself because water is seen as such an essential service and a critical part of our economy and jobs," Executive Director Timothy Quinn said in a press release.

The California Building Industry Association, the California Farm Bureau Federation and other groups also said the poll underscored the importance of the state's water supply system -- but it's too soon to say whether residents will be willing to pay for major new costs when many are struggling to pay other bills.

[Region's water outlook bright for 2012]

[Rare bird sends buzz through enthusiasts]

[Abalones cling to life as recovery plan forms]

Mike Lee: [mike.lee@uniontrib.com](mailto:mike.lee@uniontrib.com); (619)293-2034; Follow on Twitter @sdtulee

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## Moneynews

# Study: US Needs Billions for Water, Sewers

Tuesday, December 13, 2011 05:40 PM

### By:

The United States needs to pour billions of dollars into repairing its pipes and wastewater systems in the coming decades, or it could face drinking water shortages and onerously high sewer rates, the American Society of Civil Engineers said on Tuesday.

In a report it will release later this week, the group found that the gap between needs and anticipated funding for wastewater and drinking water infrastructure will swell to \$84 billion by 2020.

"As the U.S. population has increased, the percentage served by public water systems has also increased. Each year new water lines are constructed to connect more distant dwellers to centralized systems, continuing to add users to aging systems," Gregory DiLoreto, its president-elect, told the Senate subcommittee on water of the Environment and Public Works Committee.

"Although new pipes are being added to expand service areas, drinking water systems degrade over time; they must be replaced at the end of their useful life, which ranges from 15 to 95 years," he said.

The demand is growing as the U.S. population increases, the Environmental Protection Agency's director of wastewater management, James Hanlon, told the subcommittee.

"Communities across the country identified the need for \$300 billion in wastewater and \$335 billion in drinking water infrastructure improvements for capital expenditures over the next 20 years," he said.

On a scale of A through F, where "F" stood for failure, the society gave the U.S. wastewater and drinking water infrastructure a "D-" in 2009.

"Each day, the condition of our water infrastructure results in significant losses and damages from broken water and sewer mains, sewage overflows, and other symptoms of water infrastructure that is reaching the end of its useful life cycle," said Sen. James Inhofe, the most powerful Republican on the Environment and Public Works Committee.

Most of the country obtains water from public systems operated by local authorities, which borrow from the federal government, charge users fees and issue bonds to fund repairs and new construction.

The federal Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds have financed more than \$111 billion of infrastructure projects since 1987, Hanlon said. The federal stimulus plan in 2009 put nearly \$6 billion into 3,214

projects through the revolving funds.

The funds, which make loans and then use the debt repayments to make new loans, are "the basic mechanism for assistance to communities in addressing water quality issues," Joe Freeman, financial assistance division chief for the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, told the subcommittee.

"Currently, funding levels are decreasing while the restrictions and set-asides for those funds are increasing, thus making the program even less sustainable and growing the gap of un-met needs," he said, adding that the EPA's current oversight "stifles innovation and the abilities of states to best respond to local needs."

Nowhere is the struggle to cover the costs of sewer improvements more apparent than in Jefferson County, Alabama. It embarked on a complicated financing scheme to retrofit its sewers that ultimately led the county to file for bankruptcy and pushed taxpayers' monthly sewer bills close to \$100.

By 2050, the U.S. Census expects the country's population to have increased by 35 percent, Hanlon told the subcommittee.

"Many of the environmental successes of the past three decades may be overwhelmed by future demands," he said. "These water and wastewater infrastructure challenges will be faced by systems across the country, both in our large and growing urban centers as well as our rural towns."

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## Hinkley sludge plant moves forward

By [KATIE LUCIA](#), staff writer

2011-12-12 16:32:10



**HINKLEY** • Leaders of a proposed compost recycling plant near Hinkley say the facility could be built as early as next month after a judge ruled Monday approving the company's environmental impact report.

Nursery Products, LLC. has been trying to build the plant for six years, but have been stalled due to litigation from environmental firms associated with [HelpHinkley.org](#), a group dedicated to fighting environmental issues on behalf of Hinkley residents.

Nursery Products Director of Operations Chris Seney said he believes this is the last legal obstacle the company has to building.

"It's been a long, long road," Seney said. "I look forward to showing them what (the plant) really is. It's great for the environment, great for taxpayers, and it's going to provide a lot of jobs."

When constructed, the 80-acre facility will accept 400,000 tons of waste product per year — half biosolids, or treated human waste, and half green waste, such as tree trimmings and grass clippings.

Seney said the plant is good for the community as it will provide 35 jobs and also handle Barstow's sludge waste at half the cost.

Bob Conaway, Hinkley resident and member of [HelpHinkley.org](#), said the group opposes the plant due to the environmental and community impacts the facility will have on the Hinkley community. Conaway explained the group's biggest concerns are with odor, wind and water supply, among others. Each of these matters are addressed in the company's EIR, which has been under legal scrutiny these six years.

Conaway said he felt the information given to the judge in this case was inaccurate or incomplete, though he's not sure what the group's next steps will be.

"It's disappointing," Conaway said. "Disappointing because the actual facts are not the facts that are being recited."

San Bernardino Superior Court Judge John P. Vander Feer ruled in favor of Nursery Products over the latest concern: water supply.

The judge ordered Nursery Products in April to determine if there was sufficient groundwater available for the project. The case was heard after Nursery Products obtained an assessment of the area's groundwater; drafted an addendum to the EIR; and received approval from the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors.

**Contact the writer:**

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## Water rate hikes tied to aging infrastructure

Sandra Emerson, Staff Writer

Created: 12/10/2011 06:07:27 AM PST

Significant water rate hikes in San Bernardino and Los Angeles County cities since the beginning of the year has caused many angry ratepayers to speak up.

Residents in Claremont and Barstow are facing proposed hikes from the privately run Golden State Water Company, while residents on the east side of the San Bernardino Valley have already been hit with increases.

The reason for the hikes boils down to one major issue - aging infrastructure, according to Susan Longville, director of Cal State San Bernardino's Water Resources Institute.

"That's why San Bernardino had to raise its rates, which in turn forced East Valley Water District to raise their rates," Longville said. "It's why the private municipal water did the same thing. And that's where we're at. It's a terrible time for the consumer, no doubt about it."

As the state's resources dried up, so did grant money for water companies that was typically used for infrastructure repairs, so water companies are looking to customers to foot the bill, Longville said.

"You're paying for the power, the pump, to treat and to move that water from the ground or from the reservoir, from everywhere to your home," Longville said. "You're paying for those carrying costs and the infrastructure that delivers it, and water agencies just find themselves in the place where the rate the consumer is going to pay is the only place to turn. There's no other alternatives."

The city of San Bernardino in January raised its waste water treatment water rates by 12.5 percent, which resulted in several other cities increasing their rates, including Redlands, Loma Linda and Mentone.

Also, East Valley Water District board of directors last month agreed to increase sewer treatment charges between 16 percent and 60 percent for some commercial customers.

Golden State Water Co. is proposing to increase water rates in its cities by 24.54 percent in 2013.

According to the water company officials, the proposed increases are to pay for infrastructure repairs over the next 30 years including the replacement of a well and a seismic retrofit to a reservoir.

However, members of the group Claremonters Against Outrageous Water Rates view it differently.

"I really think if you were to ask me, it's corporate greed," said Claremont resident Hal Hargrave, a member of the group.

"They have posed profits of an increase of 77 percent over the last year. That's published. Their president is making over \$1.1 million. Their

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senior vice president is making \$754,000 and their CFO is making \$728,000."

The group is also angry over the Water Revenue Adjustment Mechanism, which charges residents for using less water. It reimburses the company for revenue lost by water conservation.

"We're in a down economy so you've got a company that has a monopoly and it gets back to charging for conservation, increasing rates with the salaries they've got for their executives, and their profits are going through the roof," Hargrave said.

"To me it's just unfathomable that they can even be serious about putting forward these additional rate increases."

Golden State also serves Barstow.

Barstow Mayor Joe Gomez has sent a letter to state Attorney General Kamala Harris requesting her office investigate the increases.

"The city of Barstow believes that GSWC has the right to achieve a fair, just, and reasonable level of profits as allowed by California law," Gomez said in his letter. "However, GSWC also has a legal obligation to adhere to a standard of reasonable care in the operation of their business."

The water company in November was awarded a 20.7 percent increase between 2011-12 by the state Public Utilities Commission.

"It is astounding that less than two years ago after such a significant increase was granted, the CPUC would be considering yet another rate enhancement for GSWC, this one installing 27.3 percent over three years," Gomez said in a news release.

Customers of privately owned water companies tend to pay higher rates than customers of public water agencies, said Ken Willis, Upland

councilman and San Antonio Water Co. board member. The city of Upland is the majority shareholder for San Antonio Water Co.

"Claremont pays twice as much for a glass of water as we do in Upland," Willis said.

For a public agency to raise rates, they have to go "more than an extra mile," or face possible legal action, Willis said. Whereas a private agency needs to request approval from the CPUC.

"For example in Upland, which is what I'm most familiar with, if we want to have a rate increase on water we would have to show the public first of all that we wanted to do that, but we would have to be able to demonstrate to the public that this was necessary," Willis said.

Private agencies are guaranteed a profit of up to 10 percent, but public agencies can only use their funds for water-related purposes, he said.

A rate hike by a privately owned water agency could mean a need to increase its profits or infrastructure repairs, Willis said.

"Well, it could be they just feel the rates were at a particular level for too long and want to make more money, if they want to fix something or

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expand something," Willis said. "They don't have to prove anything to the public, but they do have to file with the PUC."

Reach Sandra *via email*, call her at 909-483-8555, or find her on Twitter *@UplandNow*.



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## Hinkley's plume of contamination appears to be migrating northward at a much faster rate

Jim Steinberg, Staff Writer

Posted: 12/10/2011 02:15:51 PM PST

**HINKLEY** - The plume of chromium 6 contamination in this unincorporated community eight miles west of Barstow has leaped a mile in a year, according to maps released by the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Traditionally the plume has migrated about a foot per day, said Lisa Dernbach, senior engineering geologist with the water board.

"We surprised by the movement of the plume in the last last year," Dernbach said during a question and answer session following a town meeting hosted by the water board at Hinkley Elementary School late last week.

This site is the only school in this town of not quite 1,700 made famous by the year 2000 hit movie "Erin Brockovich".

Why is this happening?

Agricultural wells in the area could be pulling the plume along more quickly, she said.

Another action coming into play, is likely the narrowing of the underground valley on the plume's northern edge, which is naturally causing the plume to move more quickly, Dernbach said.

Imagine a wide, slow moving river that is gradually narrowing, Lauri Kemper, assistant executive officer with the water board, said in an

interview.

The water travels faster and faster as the river narrows. The same thing happens to underground rivers, she said.

In the 1950s and 1960s, utility company Pacific Gas & Electric Co. emptied water containing chromium 6 from its Hinkley natural gas pumping station, which then seeped in the town's groundwater.

At that time, before the cancer risks from chromium 6 were recognized, it was used to kill microbes and provide corrosion protection for the utility's massive cooling towers in Hinkley.

The resulting plume now measures four miles long by about two miles wide, Dernbach told about 60 people gathered in the school's gymnasium.

The plume map for the third quarter of 2010 showed the plume's northern edge extending to Thompson Road. The most recent map shows it crossing Somona Street, with one well showing a concentration of chromium 6 exceeding 4 parts per billion.

A study completed by Pacific Gas & Electric Company in 2007 establishes the naturally

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occurring background level of chromium 6 in Hinkley to be up to 3.1 parts per billion.

But the validity of that study has come under fire.

James Jacobs, a Bay Area hydrologist, one of three scientists recruited to review PG & E's background study, has called the scientific validity of groundwater sampling here "completely worthless."

The area where the test wells were located is so mixed up from decades of water pumping by PG & E - for remediation and agricultural purposes - that meaningful data can not be retrieved, he said in his study.

Anne Holden, a geologist with the agency, said last week that the papers by Jacobs and two other scientists are under review.

PG & E, at the request of the water board, has been drilling many new monitoring wells north of what was believed to be the well's northern boundary.

"We have found chromium levels higher than background in areas where we didn't expect to find it," said Jeff Smith, PG & E spokesman.

"We don't know whether the areas greater than background have something to do with the past actions of PG & E," Smith said.

Further investigation will be needed to determine that, Smith said.

Regardless, Smith said that PG & E is "committed to cleaning up the plume to background levels."

Several Hinkley residents attending the meeting said they had concerns that the PG & E test well drilling program was siphoning off too much water from their drinking wells.

Virtually all Hinkley property owners draw water

from private wells. There is no community water system for the area and many residents will tell you they wouldn't want it any other way.

Elaine and Greg Kearney, who live near two of those new water sampling wells, said that last week their well no longer produces water.

Dernbach said she would look into the question of whether sampling wells could impact residents' drinking water wells.

In the 1980s and early 1990s, Hinkley residents complained of gastric illnesses and cancers say they are related to Hinkley's water.

It was those concerns that led Erin Brockovich to intervene in the town's water pollution problems in the late 1990s.

That resulted in PG & E paying a legal settlement of \$333 million to 600 Hinkley residents.

"It's a shame that in the 20 some years since the settlement, nothing has been done and the plume has gotten much larger," said Scott Haislip, a Hinkley resident since 1977.

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