

RESOLUTION NO. 3156

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE WEST SAN JACINTO
GROUNDWATER BASIN MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, the EASTERN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (EMWD) was established by a vote of the people, to arrange for, and secure, sufficient supplemental water supplies to protect and enhance the economic base of the region; and

WHEREAS, EMWD is the only entity in the region that is also a member agency of THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (MWD) and, therefore, has the exclusive right to purchase and provide imported water supplies provided by, and through, MWD for use within the service area of EMWD; and

WHEREAS, the residents within the service area of EMWD have experienced extensive periods of inadequate precipitation resulting in, among other things, a continuing lowering of groundwater resources levels without sufficient replenishment, and increasing reliance on imported water supplies that are subject to restrictions associated with periodic statewide drought considerations, aqueduct capacity limitations, environmental and ecological concerns and the demands of the explosive population growth experienced in the State of California in recent decades; and

WHEREAS, despite the present economic recession, plans and preparation for a resurgence of growth and development within the County of Riverside and the incorporated communities therein within the service area of EMWD clearly indicate that the demand for water will increase and that the need to safeguard present and future supplies of local and imported water will significantly increase; and

WHEREAS, the quality of water in the groundwater basins underlying the service area of EMWD is threatened by contamination and, in some instances, the quality of certain groundwater basins has degraded to the extent that such water is virtually unusable without special desalinization treatment; and

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WHEREAS, the critical need for water is shared by many other public agency water purveyors in Southern California outside of EMWD, some of which have expressed an interest in claiming the legal rights to developing and exporting water produced within the boundaries of EMWD for delivery and beneficial uses on lands outside of the boundaries of EMWD; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, California State Law has authorized EMWD to develop and implement a plan to protect EMWD's residents and customers from the severe economic losses and degradation of the quality of life that which would inevitably accompany and result from the absence of an adequate usable water supply. The plan will provide useful and innovative planning tools with which the decline in groundwater levels can be substantially slowed and even reversed, the quality of groundwater protected and improved and local water resources safeguarded against claims by others who would export and use outside of EMWD boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of EMWD has found and determined that the preparation of a groundwater management plan is essential to protect the public's health, safety and welfare, for the lack of an adequate supply of good quality water could result in chaos with near catastrophic losses to the areas, economy and public; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of EMWD, on August 25, 1993, adopted Resolution No. 3039 declaring its intention to draft a groundwater management plan within two years of the adoption of the Resolution of Intention, pursuant to Water Code Section 10750 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Draft West San Jacinto Groundwater Management Plan has been drafted and circulated to the public and numerous public and private meetings have been held for information purposes and to receive public comment; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of EMWD has followed the California Environmental Protection Act process for evaluating impacts of the groundwater management plan; and

WHEREAS, after publication of notice pursuant to Section 6066 of the Government Code and Section 10750 et seq. of the Water Code, specifically Section 10753.5, the Board of Directors conducted a public hearing on June 8, 1995, on whether or not to adopt the West San Jacinto Groundwater Basin Management Plan; and

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WHEREAS, after concluding the June 8, 1995 Public Hearing, the Board of Directors determined that a majority protest to the adoption of the Plan had not been filed pursuant to Water Code Section 10753.5.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of EMWD hereby resolves to adopt the West San Jacinto Groundwater Basin Management Plan.

ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED this 8th day of June, 1995.

Marion V. Ashley
Marion V. Ashley, President

Attest:

Mary C. White
Mary C. White, Secretary

(SEAL)

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