

CHAPTER 8

WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

The Chino Desalter Authority (CDA) water supply is groundwater in the southern portion of Chino Basin. Groundwater is a stable source of supply that is not impacted by climate or other causes of potential water shortage common to imported water supplies. The CDA facilities, therefore serve as a contingency source for local CDA water supply agencies, and through mutual aid, other adjacent water supply agencies.

For example, during June 2004, treated imported water supply was interrupted when there was an unplanned shutdown of the Rialto Feeder pipeline for repairs. The Chino 1 Desalter was in full operation, producing 8 mgd. The CDA member agencies, the cities of Chino, and Chino Hills did not suffer a water shortage. Retail agencies in the northern Chino Basin did experience water shortage. The CDA entities did curtail their water usage as was directed by wholesale agencies MWD, CBWM and IEUA. The CDA curtailments were on stand-by to supply directly effected agencies if necessary.

8.1 MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT – REGIONAL AGENCIES

The IEUA and the Regional Contracting Agencies (consisting of the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana, Montclair, Ontario, Upland and the Cucamonga Valley Water District) agreed² (See Appendix H) that, in the event of any disruption or damage to the ability of either the IEUA or Regional Contracting Agencies to continue to serve the public or its customers with water service, sewage service or sewage treatment service, the other party will cooperate to the maximum extent possible (as determined in its discretion) to provide mutual aid assistance as requested.

This Agreement provides for mutual aid assistance when requested by an agency or agencies in the event of any disruption or damage to any agency's infrastructure. This includes even the delivery of water from one agency's system to another under catastrophic conditions or during drought periods.

8.2 PLANNING FOR A CATASTROPHE – DESALTER WATER SERVES AS A BACKUP

Southern California's three imported water supplies (State Water Project, Colorado River Aqueduct and the Los Angeles Aqueduct) cross the San Andreas Fault. Many other fault lines bisect major water facilities throughout the region. Experts consider it likely that one or more of these supplies will be disrupted in the event of a major earthquake.

² Mutual Aid Agreement between IEUA and Regional Contracting Agencies, April 21, 2004

MWD estimates that restoring service on any of these facilities following a catastrophic outage could take up to six months. This, in turn, could reduce annual deliveries by up to 50% for MWD-supplied water. The Urban Water Management Planning Act requires agencies to consider the effect of a 50% cutback in water supplies. This corresponds approximately to the degree of cutback contemplated by MWD's earthquake disruption scenario.

In 2000, IEUA updated its 1996 emergency response plan for its service area. IEUA expects to meet emergency demands within the region through extraordinary conservation and groundwater pumping measures. Multiple sources of power exist within the service area, making any electrical shortages a temporary disruption. The more stable supplies, like groundwater provided by the CDA and the dry year yield (DYY) programs, form the basis of the emergency response program.

The Chino Desalters will serve as a major potable water backup source in the Basin. Soon, the Desalters will produce 24,600 AFY of potable water. When the program is fully developed in 2025, the Desalters will produce 52,000 AFY. With the CDA Agreement of September 21, 2001 and the Mutual Aid Agreement of April 21, 2004, water can also be wheeled to agencies outside the CDA service area.

8.3 DRY YEAR YIELD

In 2002, IEUA executed an agreement with the MWD to utilize the Chino Basin for dry year storage of up to 100,000 acre-feet of surplus imported water. The Dry-Year Yield (DYY) Program is a conjunctive use project that consists of \$28.5 million worth of infrastructure improvements at water agency facilities throughout the Chino Basin and is funded entirely by MWD. The project includes well-treatment facilities, new wells, and conveyance pipeline improvements.

In a dry-year-scenario when MWD's water sources are significantly cut, MWD can request Chino Basin water agencies involved in the DYY program to pump up to 33,000 acre-feet per year, for up to three years, in-lieu of taking full-service, imported water. The agreement allows MWD to reduce its direct deliveries to the Chino Basin while increasing their reliability throughout Southern California.

Project construction is scheduled to be completed by 2006 with surplus water deliveries beginning shortly after that. The DYY program is scheduled to become effective in 2008.