



August 30, 2006

Mr. Luis Avila
California Department of Water Resources
3374 E. Shields Ave
Fresno, CA 93726

Response to review of Marina Coast Water District UWMP

Dear Mr. Avila:

On behalf of the Marina Coast Water District, I am pleased to provide this letter in response to DWR's review of their 2005 UWMP. Cited below are the areas highlighted in DWR's review and the District's response.

1. Describe how water management tools /options maximize resources & minimize need to import water. **Response:** The MCWD does not import water, nor is it proximate to any water importation facilities. Therefore, a response here is unnecessary. Discussion of this can be found in Section 3.6.
2. Provide planned water supply quantities. **Response:** Planned available supplies are found in Table 3.4. This shows the demands that will be accommodated "by year" as limited by current groundwater allocations which are shown under the column headed "FORA Allocation" in the Former Fort Ord section of the table and "Available Supply" in the Marina Area of the table. Planned future supplies are also discussed at length in Section 2.5, Water Augmentation for Ord Community Supplies.
3. Analysis of location & amount projected, 20 years. **Response:** Table 3-4 again provides the amount projected to be pumped under current groundwater allocation limitations. As discussed extensively in Chapter 2.0, all pumping is from sub-basins within the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin.
4. Supply Reliability – AF Year/Basis of Water Year Data. **Response:** Section 3.4 discusses single and multiple dry year comparisons by narrative only. As discussed in this section, MCWD's supplies come from the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin in conjunction with 700,000 AF of surface storage. Accordingly, the District's demands are less than 2% of the basin yield. This section concludes: "Therefore, MCWD's groundwater supply is fully available in annual average, single dry and multiple dry years". Table 3-4 provides the currently available supplies based on proposed land use and Section 3.2.5 Summary Demand Projections discusses overall projected demands against current and planned supplies.

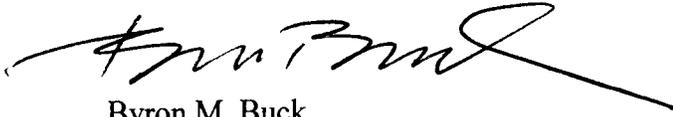
5. Project future water use by sector. **Response:** This is shown in Figure 3-1. The MCWD does not project number of meters.
6. No future water supply projects or programs and no non-implemented/not scheduled DMMs. **Response:** Section 2.5 discusses at length the MCWD's future water supply augmentation plans. Table 4-1 summarizes the status of conservation program implementation by DMM, provides additional planned actions and status of improvement recommendations. These are discussed in more detail in the narrative for each DMM in Chapter 4.
7. Planned Water Supply Projects and Programs. **Response:** Section 2.5 discusses at length the MCWD's future water supply projects including desalination and wastewater recycling programs.
8. Three-Year Estimated Minimum Water Supply. **Response:** See no. 4 above.
9. Preparation for catastrophic supply interruption plan. **Response:** In Chapter 6.0 at page 6-2, the UWMP indicates that the actions in the Urban Water Shortage Contingency Plan are those that the MCWD will initiate in coordination with its Emergency Response Plan to address catastrophic interruption in its water supply.
10. Penalties and Charges. **Response:** in Chapter 6.0 the five stages of the MCWD's Water Shortage Contingency Plan are discussed. At page 6-4 it is noted that at any time necessary the District may pass an emergency ordinance increasing usage rates to effect conservation savings. Given that the MCWD's supplies are largely unaffected by short-term hydrologic droughts as discussed in Section 3-4, the District has chosen to defer adopting penalty rates and charges preferring to assess any water shortage that may arise on its particular features and merits, rather than adopt a set of penalty rates and charges based upon speculative assessment. The shortages the District is likely to face would likely be related to short-term system outages or well failure or a longer-term salinity intrusion problem as discussed in the Plan. Should penalty rates be necessary to manage those situations, they can be adopted within days of a problem arising under the District's legal authority.
11. Wastewater collected and treated in the service area/volume that meets recycled water standard. **Response:** Section 2.5.1 discusses the amount of recyclable water available to the MCWD (equal to what it generates, by contract with MRWPCA) or, currently 2,600 AF/Y. The water quality is acceptable for recycling and is currently the same water that is used for irrigation of edible crops as part of the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project.
12. Describe current type, place and use of recycled water. **Response:** as noted on page 2-23, MCWD discontinued production at its former water reclamation facility and currently does not use recycled water.

13. Describe and quantify potential uses of recycled water. **Response:** Beginning at paragraph four on page 2-23 of Section 2.5.1 MCWD's recycling plans are discussed. As noted, the demands to be served are irrigation uses.
14. Projected use of recycled water, 20 years. **Response:** Section 2.5.3 discusses the MCWD's selection of the Hybrid Alternative (Desalination and Recycling) that will provide about 1,500 AF/Y of recycled water. The water will be available pending construction of recycled water transmission facilities, expected by 2008. Actual use will depend in large part upon the pace of Ord Community development, which cannot be accurately judged by MCWD at this time. However, full use of the recycled water is expected by 2020.
15. Plan to optimize use of recycled water. **Response:** Section 2.5.1 describes the recycled water alternatives investigated by the MCWD within its UWMP and its Regional Urban Recycled Water Distribution Project. The MCWD chose an optimum project (Hybrid Alternative) as described in Section 2.5.3 with the MCWD and Fort Ord Reuse Authority Board of Directors action in this regard noted at page 3-8 in Section 3.2.5. This Hybrid Alternative utilizes the most practicable amount of recycled water without necessitating the construction of storage facilities for recycled water.
16. Supply and Demand Comparison to 20 Years/single dry year scenario/multiple-dry year scenario. **Response:** Table 3-4 contains all the information that would otherwise be covered in DWR's sample Plan tables. As noted above, the Plan makes no distinction between single or multiple dry-year scenarios since MCWD's supply is currently groundwater which does not vary due to short-term hydrology.
17. Review of Implementation of 2000 UWMP. **Response:** Paragraph 3 on page 1-1 contains this information.

Summary

The MCWD believes its UWMP fully complies with the California Water Code as noted in the above. While MCWD chose for reasons of clarity and conciseness not to follow DWR's UWMP template, all of the required information, when available, was provided in the Plan. MCWD prefers to provide narrative explanation of its plans and policies and limit the use of tables for illustrative purposes and only when information can be more easily conveyed through a table. Additionally, due to MCWD's particular water supply and reliability situation, many of the DWR template tables are unnecessary. Please contact me at 916.489.9280 to discuss this review further if you draw different conclusions upon review of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Byron M. Buck', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Byron M. Buck
Principal

cc: M. Lucca
L. Lowrey