

November 9, 2005

**Attention: Water Planning Committee**

**Adoption of Water Authority's 2005 Urban Water Management Plan. (Action)**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to seek Board adoption of the Water Authority's 2005 Urban Water Management Plan (2005 Plan).

**Staff recommendation**

Adopt the resolution (Attachment 1) approving the Water Authority's 2005 Plan and submit the 2005 Plan to the State of California by December 31, 2005, in order to comply with the Urban Water Management Planning Act of the California Water Code.

**Alternative**

Direct staff to incorporate additional Board comments and seek Board adoption at December 8, 2005, meeting.

**Fiscal impact**

None.

**Background**

The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), which is included in the California Water code, requires all urban water suppliers within the state providing water to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually to prepare Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs). The UWMPs must be adopted and submitted to the Department of Water Resources by December 31, in years ending in zero and five (e.g. 2000, 2005). An agency must have a UWMP prepared pursuant to the Act in order to be eligible to receive funding or drought assistance from the State.

A copy of the 2005 Plan was mailed to each Board member with the November 2005 Meeting Packet. The major activities in development of the 2005 Plan are highlighted in the table below:

Oct. 14, 2004	Kick-off meeting with member agencies
Jan. 27, 2005	Report to Board on schedule for preparation of the 2005 Plan
Feb. 1, 2005	Host Department of Water Resources workshop on preparation of 2005 Plan
May 17, 2005	Preliminary demand forecast distributed to member agencies
Sept. 1, 2005	Member agency draft 2005 Plan distributed for technical review and comment
Sept. 22, 2005	Report to Board on proposed elements of 2005 Plan, including demand forecast and supply mix
Oct. 7, 2005	Public review draft 2005 Plan distributed to Board and public for review
Oct. 27, 2005	Public hearing to receive comments on draft 2005 Plan
Nov. 1, 2005	Comments due on draft 2005 Plan
Nov. 9, 2005	Final draft 2005 Plan distributed to Board

### **Discussion**

The 2005 Plan serves a critical role in forecasting demands over the next 25 years and documenting the diverse resource mix necessary to meet these demands. Based on SANDAG's growth forecast, water demands, with conservation, are expected to increase to 829,000 acre-feet/year (AF/YR) by 2030.

The 2005 Plan, which must be submitted to the Department of Water Resources by the end of December 2005, documents the great strides that the Water Authority and its member agencies are making to conserve and diversify their supplies. With an aggressive conservation program, the region is expected to conserve 108,400 AF in year 2030. In 2003, conserved agricultural transfer water from the Imperial Valley began flowing to the region and will provide 200,000 AF/YR by 2021. In 2003, the Water Authority was assigned rights to 77,700 AF/YR of conserved water from projects that will line the All-American and Coachella Canals. Deliveries of this conserved water will begin by year 2007. The Water Authority has also completed a number of actions towards developing a seawater desalination facility at the Encina Power Station in Carlsbad. This regional project is expected to provide 56,000 AF/YR by year 2011.

As the 2005 Plan highlights, developing these supplies is key to diversifying the region's water supply sources, but other factors are just as important, such as member agencies implementing and managing local resources. Indeed, local surface water, groundwater, and recycled water are all important elements of a diverse water supply portfolio. Likewise, it is critical that the Metropolitan Water District provide a reliable supply of imported water to the region. The Water Authority, its member agencies, and Metropolitan must work together to ensure a diverse and reliable supply for the region.

The Water Authority coordinated preparation of the draft 2005 Plan with its member agencies. They participated in the development of the regional water demand forecast and provided local supply figures. The member agencies have reviewed the draft 2005 Plan and comments have been incorporated.

The Water Authority received public comments from five entities on the draft 2005 Plan following public release on October 10, 2005. The deadline for receipt of comments was November 1, 2005. The comments received and responses to those comments are included in Attachment 2. Water Authority staff has incorporated comments into the final 2005 Plan where appropriate. Staff is requesting adoption of the 2005 Plan.

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Attachments

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