



Mail comments to:

San Diego County Water Authority
Attn: Ms. Kelley Gage
4677 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123

**PUBLIC NOTICE
OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE
CARRYOVER STORAGE AND SAN VICENTE DAM RAISE PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on August 24, 2007 the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) issued a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the proposed Carryover Storage and San Vicente Dam Raise Project (CSP) for public review and comment. The Water Authority and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) are Co-Lead Agencies for the preparation of the EIR/EIS to assess the environmental effects of the CSP at San Vicente Reservoir (Proposed Action) and the proposed alternatives. The EIR/EIS has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines (CCR Title 14, §§15082(a), 15103, and 15375); the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and its implementing regulations (40 CFR, Section 1500 et seq.); the Corps Procedures for Implementing NEPA (33 CFR, Section 230 et seq.); and with other appropriate federal laws and regulations, policies, and procedures of the Corps for compliance with those regulations.

According to CEQA and NEPA guidelines, the purpose of an EIR/EIS is to provide decision makers, public agencies, and the general public with an objective and informative document that facilitates a basic understanding of the Proposed Action and fully discloses the environmental effects associated with construction and operation of the Proposed Action and its alternatives, including direct, indirect, short-term, long-term, and cumulative environmental effects. In addition, the EIR/EIS identifies feasible mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate those effects, and adverse impacts determined to be significant after mitigation.

In compliance with CEQA and NEPA, the Water Authority has established a 45-day public review period, beginning on August 24, 2007, to solicit comments and input on the Draft EIR/EIS. All written comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR/EIS should be forwarded to the contact listed below by no later than **October 15, 2007**.

Ms. Kelley Gage
Senior Water Resources Specialist
San Diego County Water Authority
4677 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123-1233
Facsimile: (858) 268-7881
E-mail: kgage@sdcwa.org

Following the close of the public comment period, responses to comments received on the Draft EIR/EIS will be prepared, and, together with the Draft EIR/EIS, will constitute the Final EIR/EIS. The Final EIR/EIS will be considered and acted upon by the Water Authority's Board of Directors at a noticed public hearing. The Corps will sign the Record of Decision (ROD) after the Water Authority's public hearing certifying the Final EIR/EIS.

LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTION: San Vicente Dam and Reservoir are located in a relatively unpopulated area north of Lakeside in San Diego County. The reservoir is approximately six miles southeast of the City of Poway, four miles west of the Barona Indian Reservation, and less than one mile east of State Route 67 (SR-67).

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: The overall purpose of the CSP is to substantially increase the reliability and flexibility of the regional water supply by providing the Water Authority with facilities to accumulate and store approximately 100,000 acre feet (AF) of water by the year 2011. During dry weather periods, increased regional demand for water may exceed local supplies resulting in potential water shortages. Water would be accumulated, when it is available, from a variety of sources and, once stored, would provide a reliable reserve against shortages when supply sources are limited. This type of operation is well suited for improving storage reliability during droughts.

The Water Authority will be raising San Vicente Dam by 54 feet to provide approximately 52,100 AF of emergency water storage capacity in San Vicente Reservoir as part of its Emergency Storage Project (ESP). The ESP has received all necessary approvals, including a Corps Section 404 Permit (No. 95-2009200-DZ) under the federal Clean Water Act. The Proposed Action involves an additional dam raise of 63 feet to provide approximately 100,000 AF of carryover storage capacity in the reservoir as part of the CSP. Because it would not be feasible or practicable to construct two separate raises of the dam due to issues such as cost, safety of the raised dam structure, and construction logistics, the two increases would be combined and constructed at the same time. Under both the ESP and CSP dam raises, the existing 220-foot high concrete gravity dam would be raised by as much as 117 feet using roller compacted concrete, expanding the usable reservoir volume by up to 152,100 AF to provide both ESP and CSP storage.

Other alternatives evaluated in the EIR/EIS include the "No Action" Alternative; a new dam and 100,000 AF reservoir in Moosa Canyon near Valley Center in San Diego County, California (Moosa 100K Alternative); and a reduced raise of San Vicente Dam providing 50,000 AF of carryover storage capacity in San Vicente Reservoir, combined with a smaller new dam and 50,000 AF reservoir in Moosa Canyon (SV 50K/Moosa 50K Alternative).

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Two (2) public hearings to receive comments on the Draft EIR/EIS will be held by the Water Authority and the Corps. The locations and times for the public hearings are as follows:

Valley Center High School, 31322 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center, CA 92082, at 6:30 p.m., on **October 4, 2007.**

Lakeside Community Center, 9841 Vine Street, Lakeside, CA, 92040, at 6:30 p.m. on **October 8, 2007.**

The Draft EIR/EIS and appendices are available for review and downloading from the Water Authority's Internet web page at the following address: <http://www.sdcwa.org>. Copies of the Draft EIR/EIS and all documents referenced in the Draft EIR/EIS are available for public review by appointment at the Water Authority office location listed above. Please contact Ms. Kelley Gage at the Water Authority at (858) 522-6763 to set up an appointment. Please note that only qualified individuals will be allowed to review the confidential cultural resources appendices. Copies of the Draft EIR/EIS and appendices are also available for public review at the following locations:

Lakeside Public Library
9839 Vine Street
Lakeside, CA 92040

Valley Center Public Library
29200 Cole Grade Road
Valley Center, CA 92082

For further information concerning this project, including the public hearings listed above, please contact Ms. Kelley Gage at (858) 522-6763.

This notice is required to be filed with the County Clerk's office for a period of not less than thirty (30) days.