

January 23, 2003

Dear Community Member,

The New Year has brought many new developments to report. The San Diego County Water Authority is considering purchasing four of the diesel generators used by Kiewit, the primary contractor, during the construction phase of the dam. These generators would provide emergency power to run the pumps that move water to and from the reservoir should conventional power, currently supplied by SDG&E, be interrupted.

The generators are the size of a container crate and, if purchased, would be located behind the pump station – which is currently under construction at the downstream base of the dam – just behind the water treatment plant. Once purchased and installed, the generators would only be used during the unlikely event of an interruption of conventional power to the site.

Design work has commenced on the surge control pipe for the dam and pump station. The pipe will be approximately 8 feet in diameter and will reduce potential stress from a strong wave or surge of water, which could result if the pump station experienced an emergency power outage. The pipe will connect to the Olivenhain pipeline at the base of the dam, run up the canyon toward the existing power line towers and terminate near the right abutment of the dam. The end of the pipe will protrude approximately two to three feet above ground and will be appropriately camouflaged.

Construction work on the surge control pipe is planned for April through December of 2003. Both the pump station and the surge control pipe are expected to be completed at the same time. No additional nighttime work is planned for either project.

Dismantling the traffic signal at the intersection of Harmony Grove and Via Ambiente is expected to begin the first week of May. The work will take about approximately 10 days and will include returning the widened road to its original state and re-vegetating.

The downstream face of the dam is currently being prepared for staining. A stain called "desert varnish" was selected several years ago as the best match to the local terrain and, once applied, will help the dam blend in with its surroundings. The staining is expected to begin in the next few months.

Please feel free to contact us toll-free at 1-877-426-2010. A staff member is available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and we can be paged at the same number if an emergency arises after business hours.

Sincerely,



Jerry Reed
Project Manager,
Olivenhain Dam