

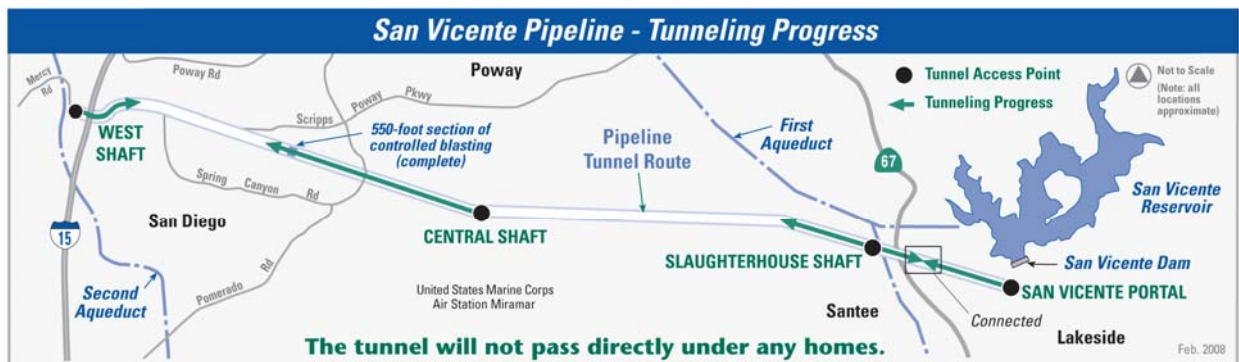
## San Vicente Pipeline Project Update February 2008

The following project update is being provided to keep the community planning groups informed of the San Vicente Pipeline construction progress.

### Tunneling Progress

The San Vicente Pipeline will be 11 miles long and will connect San Vicente Reservoir to the Second Aqueduct near I-15 at Mercy Road. The tunnel will be 12 feet in diameter and an 8.5-foot diameter steel water pipe will be installed inside of the tunnel. In normal operations, when the pipeline is completed, imported water will be sent by gravity to San Vicente Reservoir and in an emergency situation it will be pumped to the Second Aqueduct.

There are four construction access points to build the San Vicente Pipeline. Two are located at each end of the project; one near the base of San Vicente Dam, called the San Vicente Portal and the other, near the Second Aqueduct off of I-15 at Mercy Road, is the West Shaft. The Central Shaft is located south of the Beeler Canyon community within StoneBridge Estates. The fourth access point is located off of Slaughterhouse Road in Lakeside and is called the Slaughterhouse Shaft.



*The San Vicente Pipeline is an 11-mile tunnel and a large-diameter pipeline that will connect San Vicente Reservoir in Lakeside to the Water Authority's Second Aqueduct. The pipeline will function with other Water Authority facilities to provide water to the region in an emergency.*

Three tunneling machines are currently working simultaneously to build the San Vicente Pipeline. One tunneling machine is excavating from the West Shaft going east. A second machine is tunneling westward from the Central Shaft. The third machine is also tunneling westward toward the Central Shaft from the San Vicente Portal.

Over 50 percent of the tunnel has been excavated. However, harder-than-anticipated ground conditions have delayed the project, with completion now scheduled for 2010.

## **West Shaft**

The West Shaft is 115 feet deep and 36 feet in diameter. Currently there are two 10-hour shifts per day, Monday through Friday. Nighttime work is restricted to maintenance work (no tunneling operations are allowed at night). A tunneling machine, moving eastward, has excavated over 3,000 of the 4,400 feet needed to complete this tunnel section. Another tunnel coming from the Central Shaft will meet this tunnel. Excavated material from the West Shaft is stockpiled and then transported off the site. The trucks avoid hauling the materials during the morning commute.

## **Central Shaft**

The Central Shaft is 75 feet deep, 30 feet wide, and 60 feet long and is elliptically shaped. Work is performed 24 hours a day, Monday through Friday with occasional maintenance work on Saturday. The material excavated from the tunnel will be used to raise the elevation of the site and be used as shaft backfill. There will be permanent structures on the site to allow for inspection, maintenance, and air ventilation of the completed pipeline. The Water Authority intends to sell most of the property after the project is completed. The McMillin Companies has the first right to purchase the property. The site is zoned for institutional use, which means it could be used as a school or church.

Controlled blasting to excavate a 550-foot-long tunnel section west of the Central Shaft was completed on January 16, 2008. No complaints were received during this tunneling activity, which began in mid-September 2007. The tunneling machine has resumed operation to excavate the next 9,500-foot tunnel section that will meet up with the tunnel being mined to the east from the West Shaft.

## **San Vicente Portal and Slaughterhouse Shaft**

The San Vicente Portal and Slaughterhouse Shaft are both being used to support tunneling activities to excavate the project's longest tunnel section measuring 21,750 feet. Work at these two locations occurs 24 hours a day, Monday through Saturday. A tunneling machine is excavating west of the Slaughterhouse Shaft. Tunneling efforts in this long section are slower than anticipated due to the hard ground that is being encountered. Excavated materials are removed at the San Vicente Portal and trucked to a nearby aggregate company.

## **The Purpose of the San Vicente Pipeline**

The San Vicente Pipeline is a key component of the San Diego County Water Authority's Emergency Storage Project. The Emergency Storage Project will protect San Diego County by increasing the amount of water available for use if the region's imported water supply is severed by earthquakes or significantly reduced, such as by drought. The pipeline project will create a water supply link between San Vicente Reservoir and the Water Authority's Second Aqueduct, allowing water to be delivered to agencies in the southern portion of the county in an emergency. The project will also improve the Water Authority's ability to move large quantities of water into storage when available.

For more information about the San Diego County Water Authority's Emergency Storage Project or the San Vicente Pipeline Project, please call toll free **(877) 426-2010**, email [ESPinfo@sdcwa.org](mailto:ESPinfo@sdcwa.org), or visit our website at [www.sdcwa.org](http://www.sdcwa.org). Click on "Infrastructure," then "ESP," then "San Vicente Pipeline."