

EMERGENCY STORAGE PROJECT
San Vicente Pipeline Update
Briefing Summary

DATE: September 11, 2007 **TIME:** 7:30 p.m.

EVENT: Scripps Ranch Civic Association Meeting

MEETING LOCATION: Scripps Ranch Public Library

PRESENTERS: Shannon Reed, SDCWA
 Andrew Oleksyn, SDCWA

STAFF RESOURCES: Jess Young, Katz & Associates

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Shannon Reed, public affairs representative with the San Diego County Water Authority, provided information about the Water Authority's 20-Gallon Challenge. The 20-Gallon Challenge encourages residents to save 20 gallons of water per person, per day. She also directed people to www.bewaterwise.com and www.sdcwa.org to learn more about ways to conserve water.

Shannon introduced Andrew Oleksyn as the construction administrator for the San Vicente Pipeline project. Andrew first provided an overview of the Emergency Storage Project and then provided more specifics about the pipeline project. San Diego County imports up to 90 percent of its water from the Colorado River and Northern California. There are two aqueducts that bring water to San Diego County. In the early 1990s, the Water Authority recognized that its system is vulnerable because those two aqueducts cross fault lines. If the aqueducts are severed because of an earthquake, some communities could be without water in as little as three days. To avoid this risk, the Water Authority is increasing its water storage capacity and is improving its ability to move water around the county through various capital improvement projects as part of the Emergency Storage Project.

Andrew explained the San Vicente Pipeline will be 11 miles long and will connect San Vicente Reservoir to the Second Aqueduct in the vicinity of I-15 and Mercy Road. The tunnel will be 12 feet in diameter. An eight-and-a-half foot diameter steel water pipe will be installed inside 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 – all via the San Vicente Pipeline. Four construction access points are being used to build the project. There is one at each end of the pipeline route, called the San Vicente Portal and the West Shaft. There are two in the middle, called the Central Shaft and Slaughterhouse Shaft.

Currently, there are three tunneling machines working at different locations. One machine is at the West Shaft tunneling east, one machine was launched at the Central Shaft about a year ago and has been working continuously toward the West Shaft, and the third machine was launched from

the Slaughterhouse shaft and it is tunneling towards the Central Shaft. At the time of this meeting, about four and a half miles of the 11 miles of the tunnel have been completed.

Construction is being done in three eight-hour shifts, six days a week at the Central Shaft and in two 10-hour shifts at the West Shaft. There is a restriction at the West Shaft, regulating that all work must occur underground during the evening after 7 p.m. There is a 500-foot section of rock that has been identified as being incompatible with what the tunneling machine can excavate. Controlled underground blasts will be used to excavate this short tunnel section. The blasting will occur over 200-feet below ground and they will be fairly small blasts that should produce very low vibrations. The tunnel alignment does not pass directly under any homes, but there are homes that are in the vicinity of the tunnel at the surface. Following a Water Authority requirement to offer pre-blast surveys to structures within 400-feet of the blasting, homeowners within this distance have been contacted and surveys have been conducted. Blasting will begin late this week or next week. The blasting is very controlled and there is no expected impact to homes at the surface. The Water Authority will also monitor vibrations at the surface to verify that the contractor is doing the blasting work within the required specifications.

Questions and Comments During the Presentation:

- Q. What streets is the blasting affecting? Will the blasting take place under any homes?
A. The homes that are affected are just south of Scripps Poway Parkway, just north of Cypress Canyon Parkway. Some are along Cypress Canyon, Evergold Street and Candy Rose Way. There are about 50 homes that are within that 400- foot radius. The blasting is not directly under any homes.
- Q. When is the blasting expected to be complete?
A. It depends on how well the blasting is going. The machine has already gotten through about 100-feet of granite. We're expecting about two months worth of drill and blast work.
- Q. When will the whole project be completed?
A. Overall, we've run into harder ground that expected, so the machine is excavating slower than expected. This project will run well into 2009.
- Q. Will the San Vicente Reservoir be drained completely?
A. [Shannon Reed] No, it's not going to be drained completely. It will be lowered to elevation 590-feet from it's current 620-630 feet. If the drought continues, it might come down on its own and the reservoir will close earlier than we anticipate.
- Q. Where will the water go?
A. The City will use it and put it in their system. It will not be wasted.
- Q. Where is the soil from the excavation going? Will it be dumped in StoneBridge Estates housing development?
A. The material that comes out of the Central Shaft stays on-site. The McMillin Companies left the site like a large bowl; we are filling it with the tunnel material now and it will be roughly road-level. Material from the West Shaft is trucked off-site to the Marine Corps base. Material on the east end of the project is going to nearby material suppliers.

- C. I haven't received any phone calls about this project. People were initially concerned about vibration, shock, etc. and we've had none of that to date. Thank you very much for updating us on it and keeping us informed. Don't use Pomerado Road for carrying your debris.
- R: Thank you, we won't.

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