November 4, 2005

Dear Community Member,

The San Diego County Water Authority's Lake Hodges Projects team attended the Del Dios Town Council meeting last month to update the community on the progress of the work. This letter follows up on some unanswered questions from the meeting and provides additional project updates.

Saturday Work
In order to stay on schedule and complete tunnel operations by June 2006, Kiewit Pacific Corporation, the Water Authority's tunnel and pipeline contractor, will need to begin working one to two Saturdays per month, starting this month, through June 2006. The work will consist of placing concrete on the tunnel floor, which will allow haul trucks faster and safer access in and out of the tunnel. Working on Saturdays will allow the concrete to cure over the weekend so Kiewit can resume tunnel operations again Monday through Friday without any interruptions. The Saturday work will include up to three concrete trucks accessing the site via Rancho Drive between 9 and 10 a.m. with work occurring between 9:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Other than the truck transportation, all Saturday work will be inside the tunnel. The environmental impact report for the project allows work on Saturdays, as long as the community has been notified.

24-Hour Tunneling Work Begins Mid-November
The contractor will begin 24-hour operations at the construction site once excavation reaches 800 feet into the tunnel, which is expected around the middle of November. During 24-hour operations, demolition work will be allowed. Because the work will take place far inside the tunnel, residents probably will not hear the blasts, and the vibrations should be even less noticeable than at the beginning of the project.

Coast to Crest Trail Closure Update
The Coast to Crest Trail is currently closed to all hikers, bikers and equestrians Monday through Friday. The Water Authority knows this is a popular trail and will try to allow visitors to enjoy the trail when possible. The contractor is trying to adjust construction operations and open the trail on some weekdays in November and December, if safety permits. A fence will be installed along the portion of the trail that currently does not have fencing. Once fencing is complete, in mid- to late November, the trail will be temporarily open seven days a week. There will be times, however, when the trail will need to be closed again for safety reasons. When the trail is closed, the “Trail Closed” sign will be posted on the gate. If you are planning to use that portion of the trail that passes by the construction site, check the Water Authority’s Lake Hodges Projects web page to determine the trail’s current status. The portion of Lake Drive that extends into the construction site will continue to be closed until construction is complete.

Follow Up on Questions from October Del Dios Town Council Meeting
- Can the nighttime lights be adjusted so the light avoids shining into homes?
  The contractor has adjusted the lights to ensure they are pointed down towards the work area and not toward any homes. There are times when fog has settled into the area and the lights reflect off the fog. This could be part of the reason that nearby residents can see the lights shining up out of the site at night. It is necessary to keep the lights on throughout the night for security and safety reasons.

Continued on back
• Can you cut holes in the fence that was installed along the trail so wildlife can still access the lake? The Water Authority consulted with its biologists who determined that cutting holes in the fence is not necessary. There are natural ravines along the fence line and wildlife can still access the lake.

• How big will the pump station building be and was that size approved in the environmental impact report? We noted at the town council meeting that the pump station will be 50 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 18 feet tall. These dimensions are actually smaller than what was approved in the environmental impact report, which states that the building can be up to 200 feet long, 50 feet wide, and 18 feet tall.

Trucking Access and Safety
Trucks used to haul equipment and material to or from the site are not allowed on the project site until 9 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Semi-trucks that have been reported on Lake Drive before 9 a.m. have not been a part of the Lake Hodges Projects. Construction workers and truck drivers who regularly access the site are being reminded to slow down on the residential streets to help maintain a “calmer” traffic flow through the community.

As always, for more information, please visit the Water Authority’s website at www.sdcwa.org, click on "Infrastructure," then "ESP," and finally "Lake Hodges Projects." Del Dios Town Council meeting summaries of the Water Authority presentations about the Lake Hodges Projects are located on this site, along with copies of all community correspondence. If you have questions, please call our toll-free project information line at (877) 426-2010.

Sincerely,

Joe Bride
Contract Administrator, Lake Hodges Projects
San Diego County Water Authority