May 11, 2007

Dear Community Member,

The Lake Hodges Projects are a critical part of the San Diego County Water Authority’s ability to provide a safe and reliable water supply to support the region’s 3 million residents and $150 billion economy. These projects will increase San Diego County’s emergency water storage by 20,000 acre-feet, create 40-megawatts of peak hydroelectric power that will sustain nearly 26,000 homes annually, and provide the ability to capture water that overflows Lake Hodges Dam during peak rainy seasons. During dry seasons, the projects will also help sustain water levels in Lake Hodges.

Del Dios Town Council Tour
The Water Authority will provide a tour for the Del Dios Town Council board and the Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee on May 12. As you may be aware, the Del Dios Town Council has a new board and the tour will acquaint them with the project and provide the Water Authority a forum to address their questions.

Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee
The Water Authority is in the final stage of procuring a landscape architect to design the landscaping for the project site and anticipates having the landscape architect on board by the end of June. The landscape architect will work with the community and the Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee to plan the landscaping for the pump station and staging areas. The Water Authority expects the landscape committee meetings to begin this summer.

Tunneling Update
The Water Authority’s contractor, Kiewit Pacific, is finishing final testing of the 1.25-mile long pipeline connecting Lake Hodges to the Olivenhain Reservoir. Once testing of the 10-foot diameter pipeline is complete, Kiewit Pacific will demobilize its remaining crews by the end of May. To deliver the project on schedule, Kiewit Pacific has conducted 24-hour tunneling operations since November 2005, including drilling, blasting, and removal of blasting material.

As a reminder, Archer Western, the pump station and inlet/outlet tunnel contractor, implemented two work shifts in December 2006. The first shift is from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and the second shift is from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. Construction activities are the same for both work shifts; however, in the past, blasting has been limited to the first shift.

To keep the project on schedule, Archer Western will begin as-needed blasting in the inlet/outlet tunnel during the second shift beginning May 14 through this summer. Tunneling activities for both shifts will be similar to tunneling operations conducted by Kiewit Pacific at the pipeline.
tunnel. The Water Authority will continue to require Archer Western to take all possible precautions to minimize the noise and lighting effects from this night work. The Emergency Storage Project information line will continue to be answered by an on-site worker between 7 p.m. and 3 a.m. to address any community concerns regarding the night work. The toll-free Emergency Storage Project information line is (877) 426-2010.

For More Information
If you have questions, please call our toll-free project information line at (877) 426-2010 or email us at ESPinfo@sdcwa.org. Also, visit the Water Authority’s website at www.sdcwa.org, click on “infrastructure,” then “ESP,” and finally “Lake Hodges Projects.” If you would like to subscribe to the email project update list, please visit the website. The Del Dios Town Council meeting summaries of the Water Authority’s presentation about the Lake Hodges Projects are located on the site, along with copies of all community correspondence. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we construct these critical water facilities for the region.

Sincerely,

Kelly Rodgers, P.E.
Project Manager, Lake Hodges Projects
San Diego County Water Authority