



Building Water Reliability



The Emergency Storage Project is a system of reservoirs, interconnected pipelines and pumping stations designed to make water available to the San Diego region in the event of an interruption in imported water deliveries.

The Emergency Storage Project is part of the Water Authority's Capital Improvement Program to enhance and increase the operational flexibility of its water delivery system.

January 11, 2008

Dear Community Member,

The San Diego County Water Authority's Lake Hodges Projects, part of the Emergency Storage Project, will help keep water flowing throughout the region if catastrophic events such as an earthquake or prolonged drought were to cut off imported water deliveries. A status update on the projects is summarized below.

Del Dios Town Council Briefing

The Water Authority's project team will be attending the next Del Dios Town Council meeting to provide the community with an update on the project. To learn more, please attend the meeting at the Del Dios Fire Station on Wednesday, January 16, at 7 p.m.

Construction Update

Construction in the pump station is still under way at the Lake Hodges Projects site. The contractor is pouring the concrete walls and installing the pump turbine equipment and water piping inside the pump station. The pump turbines will generate electricity as water flows downhill from Olivenhain Reservoir to Hodges Reservoir, providing an estimated \$5.4 million in revenue annually. This helps defray the operating costs at the Lake Hodges facilities and other Water Authority programs, and provides enough power to sustain nearly 26,000 homes annually. Additionally, the project will help keep Hodges Reservoir at a more consistent level and provide the ability to capture water before it spills over the Hodges Dam by pumping water uphill from Hodges to Olivenhain Reservoir.

The October wildfires that ravaged the communities surrounding Lake Hodges also made their way through the project site, halting construction for nearly two weeks and causing more than \$500,000 in damages.

Excavation work within the cofferdam has been temporarily on hold because softer ground than anticipated is affecting the stability of the cofferdam and impacting the overall schedule. Work within the cofferdam will resume on January 14. To minimize the delay to the construction schedule, the Water Authority is studying various options including resuming extended work shifts and Saturday work. The normal work shift is Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. If there are any changes to the work shifts, you will be notified in advance.

The Water Authority will continue to require the construction contractor to take all possible precautions to minimize any impacts to the community. Any questions or concerns can be placed to the toll-free information line at **(877) 426-2010**. Your inquiries can also be emailed to ESPinfo@sdcwa.org. Phone calls and emails will be returned within one business day.

Electric Switchyard Update

San Diego Gas & Electric has finished the majority of the work on the electrical switchyard. Once the Lake Hodges Projects are complete, electricity generated by the pump station will be transmitted to the SDG&E switchyard, then to a power line that connects to the local transmission system.

Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee

The final Lake Hodges Community Landscape Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, January 24, from 6-8 p.m. at the Del Dios Fire Station. This final meeting was initially scheduled for last year, but was postponed because of the wildfires and then the holidays.

At the previous meetings, committee members compiled landscape recommendations to include on the project site after construction is complete. The Water Authority's landscape architect has incorporated the feasible recommendations into a landscape design for the project site, and the committee will review the draft design at the next meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting as observers.

The 20-Gallon Challenge

The Water Authority is encouraging all residents to participate in the 20-Gallon Challenge. The 20-Gallon Challenge is a regionwide campaign to increase voluntary water conservation by 20 gallons per person, per day. For conservation tips and information about water-saving incentive programs, visit www.20gallonchallenge.com.

For More Information

To read more information about the Lake Hodges Projects or to subscribe to the email project update list, visit the Water Authority's website at www.sdcwa.org, click on "Infrastructure," then "ESP," and finally "Lake Hodges Projects." 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 to support the region's \$157 billion economy and the quality of life of 3 million residents.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Shepard
Project Manager, Lake Hodges Projects
San Diego County Water Authority