September 15, 2008

Dear Community Member:

The San Diego County Water Authority is working to ensure that the San Diego region has a safe, reliable water supply. The Lake Hodges Projects, part of the Emergency Storage Project, will help keep water flowing throughout the region in case of 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.

Construction Update
The contractor is continuing work inside the cofferdam to install the inlet-outlet structure on the lake bottom and is preparing to start excavating a 40-foot tunnel. The tunnel will connect the inlet-outlet structure to the pump station. To install the inlet-outlet structure, crews conducted various blasts to clear rock on the lake bottom. The first blast took place on August 15. Occasional blasting activities are anticipated to occur through the winter during the tunnel construction.

Once the Lake Hodges Projects are complete, Lake Hodges water will be drawn from the inlet-outlet structure, through the inlet-outlet tunnel, and into the pump station. The pump station will then pump the water uphill 1.25 miles to Olivenhain Reservoir. When water flows downhill from Olivenhain Reservoir, the pump station will be capable of generating enough electricity for up to 26,000 homes annually. For a diagram of the pump station, inlet-outlet structure and tunnel, please see the Lake Hodges Projects Fact Sheet on the project web page. See "For More Information."

Construction Work Hours – Second Shift
Once again, the contractor will make use of a second shift, which is estimated to begin the week of September 22. The second shift work hours will continue to be from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m., Monday through Friday. The second shift work should not be noticeably different from the night work that has occurred previously on the pump station construction. Occasional as-needed Saturday work will also be conducted from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The normal day shift work hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Water Authority will require the contractor to adhere to all safety regulations and minimize any impacts to the community. If you have questions about the construction activities or schedule, please call the toll-free information line at (877) 426-2010 or email ESPinfo@sdewa.org.

Del Dios Town Council Briefing
The next Lake Hodges Projects update presentation is scheduled for the October 8 Del Dios Town Council meeting at the Del Dios Fire Station at 7 p.m. The presentation summaries from previous meetings are posted on the Water Authority's website.
For More Information
To view a photo tour of the project construction, 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." Summaries from the community meetings are also posted. 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.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we construct these critical water facilities to support the region's $163 billion economy and the quality of life of 3 million residents.

Sincerely,

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