

EMERGENCY STORAGE PROJECT OLIVENHAIN DAM/LAKE HODGES COMMUNITY UPDATE SUMMARY

DATE: February 12, 2003

TIME: 7 p.m.

ORGANIZATION: Del Dios Town Council

MEETING LOCATION: Del Dios Fire Station

PRESENTERS: Tim Smith, San Diego County Water Authority; Steve Summy, Washington Infrastructure Services, Inc.

STAFF RESOURCES: Joe Bride, San Diego County Water Authority; Alex Newton, San Diego County Water Authority; Rebecca Cole, Katz & Associates; Jim Lindell, MWH Americas, Inc.

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Olivenhain Dam Presentation

Steve Summy provided an update on progress at the Olivenhain Dam site since he had presented to the town council in October 2002. He explained a topping off of roller-compacted concrete operations took place Halloween night 2002, two months ahead of schedule. He stated the project continues on schedule and within budget.

Steve explained various updates included in a recent community letter mailed in January. This included generators that have been purchased to be located behind the Olivenhain pump station (to be completed December '03) being constructed just behind the water treatment plant. The generators would only be used during the unlikely event of an interruption of conventional power to the site. He also explained design work has started on the surge control pipe for the dam and pump station. The pipe will reduce potential stress from a strong wave or surge of water. He explained the traffic light at the intersection of Via Ambiente and Harmony Grove Road is expected to be removed early-May. He explained the project crew cannot work during heavy rains and are allotted a "rain day," or an extra day, to complete the job. California Construction Law requires owners to extend contract completion dates one day, for each day of substantial rain. Steve then described the staining of the dam as a goldish-brown hue that will blend in with the surrounding area. Currently, crews are cleaning the downstream side of the dam - the dry side - so the stain can be applied this summer. Also, a polyethylene liner will be applied to the dam's upstream side.

Steve then informed the group of a new update regarding access. The project team has determined current access to the dam's gallery is not optimal if crews must quickly reach an injured person. Therefore, while gallery work takes place, quicker access off the left abutment will take place via an OMWD access gate off Mr. Israel road Steve said 85 percent of the project is complete. Work continues on the Inlet/Outlet Tower and Lake Hodges tunnel, and valve installation and a testing program have recently started. Demobilization is under way and four to six trucks each day are leaving the site with equipment - a sign the end of construction on the Olivenhain Dam is near.

Questions and Comments Asked During the Meeting Related to the Olivenhain Dam:

Q: When you speak about pipe sizes, what sizes are you referring to?

A: Anywhere from 2 inches to 102 inches.

Q: I want to commend the Water Authority on a design that is conducive to the environment. The patina stain and horse wall look great and is a nice visual for the community.

A: Thank you.

Q: I understand a chain link fence will exist around the perimeter of the dam. Chain link fences are unsightly and placing one around the dam will limit wildlife from entering the area. Is this a final decision?

A: Designs on fencing around the dam are not final. We will express your view to the project team.

Q: Del Dios is not connected to the Emergency Storage Project. Why can't somebody connect our water system to the tunnel, via an eight-inch water main?

A: Not directly. Because the Water Authority imports most of the water to the county and distributes it to local water agencies, we do not have direct community interaction. Also, water in the tunnel is un-treated and not suitable for residential use. You indirectly benefit by the fact that the ESP provides the entire county with a more reliable water supply should we be impacted by an earthquake or major catastrophic event.

Q: What happens if San Diego is not allotted water from the Colorado River?

A: Water is still available from the Metropolitan Water District, which obtains water from Northern California and the Colorado River.

Lake Hodges Projects Presentation

Tim Smith provided an update on Lake Hodges Projects. He began by explaining the Water Authority selected MWH Americas, Inc. (MWH) as the design consultant and introduced Jim Lindell who is serving as the consultant's project manager. Tim informed the group the first phase of

geotechnical drilling is complete. A second phase of drillings will begin July 2003 and last about two months. Tim indicated design on the pipeline continues and showed the current project schedule that was illustrated on a display board. Tim will arrange to have this schedule forwarded to the council's chair for distribution to interested community members. Tim then explained what water levels (and seasonal adjustments) would be expected for Lake Hodges.

Luke Mardeisch interrupted the presentation and stated that the tunnel could rupture and destroy his property. Tim stated that the Authority has never had a steel pipe rupture. Luke stated that he had to spend \$15,000 on repairs to his water production wells, after the County of San Diego built a retaining wall along Del Dios Highway. Luke stated the alignment would go right near his house. Tim explained the preliminary alignment is a tunnel that would be about 100 feet deep and at least 40 feet from his home. Luke demonstrated the distance by stepping off 37 feet in the room. Tim stated that the alignment is based on the pump station's location. The Authority moved the location, at the request of the Del Dios community during the EIR process. Luke made additional statements about lack of support from the community group. Members of the community explained the reasons for selecting the location of the pump station. Luke stated the Authority would hear from his attorney and left the meeting.

Jim Lindell (MWH) presented a preliminary evaluation of an alternative route suggested by the council at the last meeting for trucks and workers to get to and from the Lake Hodges pump station site. The truck route indicated in the approved EIR along Rancho Drive (shown in yellow) and the alternative route north on Lake Drive (shown in red) were illustrated. The primary concern of the alternative route (red route) is safety, particularly for access to Del Dios Highway. It was suggested that truck traffic could use the Rancho Drive route (yellow route) and potentially some worker vehicles approaching from the west could use the alternative route (red route). No conclusions have been made at this time; however, there is a traffic engineer on the design team who would analyze the options more thoroughly.

Tim explained that power lines for the project would not be underground. Since water for the Emergency Storage Project is to be used for emergency purposes, it is important power lines, if damaged, can be quickly fixed to transport emergency water throughout the county. Power lines under ground, if damaged, could take days or weeks to repair under emergency situations.

Questions and Comments Asked During the Meeting Related to Lake Hodges Projects:

Q: When will trucks start hauling dirt through the community?

A: Beginning of construction is scheduled for January 2006.

Q: Which way will dirt be going?

A: The exact route is not yet known, but it will likely go north to Interstate 15.

Q: Have you considered a temporary traffic light at Rancho Drive and Del Dios Highway like up at the Olivenhain Dam at the access road?

A: We will look at this, but there could be problems with getting approval from the County of San Diego.

Q: How many trucks will there be for the project and how long will they travel the construction route?

A: Trucks will travel during the two-year construction period. At peak construction, there will be approximately four truck trips every hour for eight hours each day, totaling approximately 32 truck trips a day (i.e. there will be approximately 16 trucks each driving in and out for a total of 32 truck trips).

Q: How long are the design and construction phases?

A: Design will take approximately three years and began in November 2002 and will continue through December 2005. Construction is scheduled to begin January 2006 and end January 2008.

C: Try to design the access road using the alignment outlined in red on the map (north on Lake Drive to Del Dios Highway).

A: We will consider this.

Q: How many workers will there be on the project?

A: During the peak period, there will be an estimated 140 workers.

C: Consider requiring workers to take the red route and trucks to take the yellow route.

C: Traffic will be tough during peak hours on the yellow route.

Q: Is there a decision on the access route?

A: Not yet, but the approved EIR route is on Rancho Drive.

Q: Have you checked the radius of turns along the access routes?

A: Yes, we have. There is one radius along the yellow route (intersection of Lake Drive and Rancho Drive) that may be difficult. One radius along the red route (close to Del Dios Highway) is too small for truck staging.

C: With construction not starting for another three years, the team should consider the population increase in this community that will be impacted by construction.

A: Population increase was considered in the EIR.

C: If you can close Lake Drive, we would be very grateful as we experience much cut-through traffic along this road - those who take Lake Drive to avoid time on Del Dios.

A: Lake Drive is a public road and the Water Authority has no jurisdiction over closure of public roads.

Q: Do you plan to pave any of the route?

A: We have not tested Lake Drive to determine whether it could safely support construction loads, yet. Our current plan is not to pave the truck route.

Q: Can you look at a one-way route?

A: We will consider that option.

Q: How noisy will the pump station be?

A: The EIR states the noise levels at the property boundary will be at or below County of San Diego noise standards of 50 to 55 decibels. A sound study will be conducted to determine ways to mitigate the noise.

Q: How many hours will the pump station run?

A: Our current estimates for normal operation is pumps will run eight hours at night and generators will run six hours during the day. During an emergency, the pumps will need to run for about two months.

Q: Where will the truck staging area be?

A: Staging will likely not be in the dirt area near the corner of Rancho Drive and Lake Drive. We will determine the staging areas further in the design phase.

Q: Will there be sound mitigation near or at Lake Drive?

A: We are reviewing all options for sound mitigation but have no final answer at this time. Potential mitigation measures include installing a plywood sound wall.

Q: Once Lake Hodges is hooked up to the Olivenhain Dam, will Rancho Santa Fe draw more water from the lake?

A: There is an agreement in place that describes the amount of water Rancho Santa Fe can draw; it will not increase as a result of the Authority's Lake Hodges Projects.

Q: Will you fence Lake Hodges?

A: Lake Hodges fencing will be limited to enclosing the pump station area, for security purposes.

Q: Is it true you will recapture energy? If so, how will the energy be used?

A: The energy recovered from the Olivenhain-Hodges Pumped Storage Project will be transmitted directly to the existing power grid.

Q: Will the power lines have wood poles?

A: Yes, unless SDG&E requires another type of pole.

Q: Will the lines be energized when the pumps are off?

A: Yes, a loop system will be connected behind the Nordstrom property – the lines will be 69 kilovolts.

Q: Were the above ground power lines included the EIR?

A: Yes.

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