EMERGENCY STORAGE PROJECT
Lake Hodges Projects Update
Meeting Summary

DATE: October 8, 2008
TIME: 7 p.m.
ORGANIZATION: Del Dios Town Council
MEETING LOCATION: Del Dios Fire Station, Escondido, California
ATTENDANCE: 35
PRESENTERS: Scott Robinson, Public Affairs Representative, SDCWA
STAFF RESOURCES: Lesley Robin, Katz & Associates

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Scott Robinson, public affairs representative for the Lake Hodges Projects, provided an update on the current water challenges the region is facing and reviewed the current status of the San Vicente Pipeline project, which is another component of the Emergency Storage Project. The 11-mile-long pipeline will deliver water from San Vicente Reservoir to the Water Authority’s Second Aqueduct when completed.

A Lake Hodges Projects update followed, where Scott estimated construction is about 80 percent complete. The project’s large Y-shaped bifurcation pipe was delivered on May 30 to the Lake Hodges Projects site and has been connected to the pump station, but is not yet connected to the pipeline leading to the Olivenhain Reservoir. Current work is focused on the inlet-outlet structure and the pump station. To provide an overview of the ongoing work at Hodges Reservoir, a cutaway diagram of the pump station showing which areas have been completed was displayed.

San Diego Gas & Electric’s portion of the electrical switchyard, a critical component of the Lake Hodges Projects, is now complete. Scott also provided an operational overview of how electricity will be generated at the site, once the projects are complete. The projects will be capable of generating up to 40 megawatts of electricity, enough to annually sustain nearly 26,000 homes.

Another component of the Lake Hodges Projects, called the inlet-outlet structure, will be connected to the interior of the pump station by a 200-foot-long inlet-outlet tunnel. The inlet-outlet tunnel construction requires some blasting to get through the hard rock and the contractor expects to conduct a limited number of blasts. Scott clarified that blasts will be considerably smaller than those previously conducted to construct the pipeline tunnel, which will connect Hodges and Olivenhain reservoirs.

The contractor anticipates resuming the use of a second shift in the next few days. Second shift work is conducted from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. Should residents have questions about the work that was occurring during the second shift, the contractor will carry a cell phone and answer phone calls placed to the Lake Hodges Projects information line during the second shift.
Scott concluded with an update on the ongoing construction work in the pump station, where a large amount of electrical and mechanical equipment remains to be installed. Some problems have been encountered with the equipment installation, which has delayed the construction schedule. Scott said that the Water Authority is working to identify a new construction completion date and will inform the community once a new date has been established.

Scott Robinson concluded the presentation by thanking everyone for attending.

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