

EMERGENCY STORAGE PROJECT
Lake Hodges Projects Update
Meeting Summary

DATE: January 31, 2008 **TIME:** 7 p.m.

ORGANIZATION: San Dieguito Planning Group

MEETING LOCATION: Rancho Santa Fe Fire Department, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.

ATTENDANCE: 20

PRESENTERS: Jeremy Shepard, Project Manager, SDCWA
Gina Molise, Senior Public Affairs Representative, SDCWA
Joe Zulauf, Project Manager, SDG&E
Juanita Hayes, Public Affairs Representative, SDG&E

STAFF RESOURCES: Jessica Berlin, Katz & Associates

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Gina Molise, senior public affairs representative, gave an overview of the San Diego County Water Authority and the need for all county residents to conserve water. She said the Water Authority is the San Diego region's water supplier. Rainfall in the county is just a little above average at this point in the season, but we are not sitting comfortably with our water supplies. Most of San Diego County's water comes from hundreds of miles away; next year's water situation for the county could be even more challenging. The Water Authority is asking all residents to save 20 gallons of water per person every day to avoid drawing down our water reserves for next year. You can visit www.20gallonchallenge.com for more information about the 20-Gallon Challenge program.

Gina went on to review the Water Authority's Emergency Storage Project and the Lake Hodges Projects. She said that the Emergency Storage Project is a 12-year program to build large water facilities to store water in case San Diego County is cut off from its water supply. The Emergency Storage Project consists of Olivenhain Dam and Reservoir, the 11-mile-long San Vicente Pipeline, the Lake Hodges Projects, and raising the height of San Vicente Dam.

Gina said that the Lake Hodges Pipeline was completed last spring on time and within budget. The pump station and inlet-outlet structure has now been under construction for about 18 months. These facilities will pump water between Olivenhain and Hodges reservoirs and they will also generate hydroelectricity.

Jeremy Shepard, the project manager for the Lake Hodges Projects, introduced Joe Zulauf, SDG&E project manager, and Juanita Hayes, SDG&E public affairs representative, to discuss their portion of the Lake Hodges Projects.

Joe Zulauf announced that the SDG&E transmission line and switchyard on the project site is now complete. The transmission line is 1,400 feet long and was completed in 2005. The switchyard was

energized last week. SDG&E is now finished with its portion of the project, but SDG&E will come back to test and commission the equipment when the Water Authority's facilities are complete.

Jeremy then provided a status update on the Water Authority's active Lake Hodges Projects. The pump station under construction is now about 120 feet deep – about 10 stories – and the Water Authority's portion of the electric switchyard is about 75 percent complete.

Jeremy explained that the Water Authority's contractor constructed a cellular cofferdam within Hodges Reservoir to create a dry area in the reservoir to construct the inlet-outlet structure. While the contractor was digging within the cofferdam, crews hit softer ground than expected. These unexpected ground conditions require additional work, including installing shotcrete and rock bolts. This additional work has caused a delay to the project. The Water Authority is currently working with the contractor on options to minimize the delay. Some of the options include potentially working longer hours or double shifts.

Jeremy said that commercial operation of the pump station was originally scheduled for September 2008 and the entire project was scheduled to be complete at the end of 2008. At this point the Water Authority anticipates that the project will extend into 2009. The project team will update the community when the completion date is more clearly defined.

Questions and Comments During the Presentation:

Q. Are there quagga mussels in Lake Hodges?

A. There is no evidence of the quagga mussels in Lake Hodges at this time.

Q. Is anyone doing anything about the quality of the water in Lake Hodges?

A. The Water Authority formed a Technical Advisory Committee, which includes representatives from many of the Water Authority's member agencies, including Olivenhain Municipal Water District. They are developing a reservoir operating plan. They have completed a significant portion of the study, but there is still more work to do. The plan will define specific parameters for moving water between the two reservoirs.

Q. What is the cost of the project now that this additional work needs to be done?

A. That is still being negotiated with the contractor.

Q. A road that SDG&E uses to get to its power lines used to be closed but is now open, people are starting to use it. Can you close it again?

A. Joe Zulauf stated that SDG&E can replace the gate that used to be on the road to prevent people from using it.

Jeremy Shepard and Gina Molise concluded the session by thanking everyone for attending.

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