



Building Water Reliability

February 17, 2010

Dear Community Member:

The first construction phase of the San Diego County Water Authority's San Vicente Dam Raise project is more than half complete. The contractor has been excavating the foundation on the hillsides adjacent to the dam, removing concrete from the top and the face of the dam, and doing other work to prepare for raising the height of the dam 117 feet. This preparation work will not affect the integrity of the existing dam and is being monitored regularly by the State Division of Safety of Dams. This phase is expected to be complete this summer.

The next phase of construction focuses on placing concrete to raise the height of the dam. This is the largest component of the project, and is anticipated to begin later this year.

The contractor will use roller-compacted concrete to raise the dam. This type of concrete is as strong as conventional concrete, but more economical because it takes less time to place, and uses less cement. The downstream side of the existing dam will be completely covered by roller-compacted concrete and will have a new stair-stepped appearance.



The excavation on the hill shows how tall the raised dam will be – the tallest dam raise in the country.



The contractor removed the top one foot of concrete from the dam to help the new concrete bond to the existing dam.

To place the roller-compacted concrete, the contractor will work 24 hours a day and up to seven days a week for approximately six months. The concrete layers need to be placed continuously to allow them to bond to one another. Truck traffic will increase during this time for delivery of raw materials for the concrete, which will be produced on site. The Water Authority will notify nearby neighbors before this more intensive construction phase begins.



San Diego County Water Authority

Capital Improvement Program

Emergency Storage Project Information Line: 1-877-426-2010



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.

Construction for the dam raise is still expected to be complete in late 2012. The entire project is now expected to be complete in mid-2014, which is a slight change. Three smaller construction projects near the dam will follow the dam raise: building a new marina for the expanded reservoir, relocating a pipeline above the new high water level, and restoring construction areas. These projects will start in mid-2012 after the dam is raised, and are expected to be complete by mid-2014.



A rendering of the future dam shows the stair-stepped appearance of the roller-compacted concrete.

The Water Authority divided the dam project into these multiple phases of work to increase competition and allow smaller contractors an opportunity to bid on a portion of the work. The new schedule reduces the safety risk and site congestion challenges that could arise with up to three contractors working in the same area at the same time.

The reservoir is still anticipated to reopen to recreation between late 2014 and late 2017, depending on rainfall and supply and demand for water at that time.

San Vicente Dam Raise Project Schedule By Phase

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|---|---------------------------------|
| Foundation Excavation (current work) | Complete summer 2010 |
| Dam Raise | Spring 2010 – Late 2012 |
| Replacement Pipeline | Summer 2012 – Summer 2013 |
| New Marina | Summer 2013 – Summer 2014 |
| Site Restoration | Summer 2013 – Summer 2014 |
| Reservoir Reopen to Recreation | Between late 2014 and late 2017 |

The San Vicente Dam Raise project, part of the Emergency Storage Project, will help keep water flowing throughout the region if a catastrophic event, such as an earthquake or a prolonged drought, were to cut off or reduce our imported water deliveries.

For more information about the San Vicente Dam Raise project, please call the information line at **(877) 426-2010**, email ESPinfo@sdcwa.org, or visit the project website at cip-esp.sdcwa.org and select San Vicente Dam Raise. A photographic tour of the current construction on the San Vicente Dam Raise project is posted on the project website and will be updated throughout construction.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we construct these critical water facilities to support the region's \$174 billion economy and the quality of life of 3.2 million residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gina Molise". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gina Molise
 Senior Public Affairs Representative
 San Diego County Water Authority