

EMERGENCY STORAGE PROJECT

San Vicente Pumping Facilities San Vicente Pipeline Carryover Storage and San Vicente Dam Raise EIR/EIS San Vicente Dam Raise Briefing Summary

DATE: Feb. 21, 2007

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

ORGANIZATION:

Lakeside Community Planning Group

MEETING LOCATION:

Lakeside Community Center

PRESENTERS:

Nicola Kavanagh, SDCWA
Brent Fountain, SDCWA
Shannon Reed, SDCWA
Andrew Oleksyn, SDCWA

STAFF RESOURCES:

Emily Powell, Katz & Associates

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

San Vicente Pumping Facilities Update

Nicola Kavanagh, project manager for the San Vicente Pumping Facilities at the San Diego County Water Authority, explained the pumping facilities are part of the second phase of the overall Emergency Storage Project. The main purpose of the Emergency Storage Project is to ensure an adequate water supply for San Diego County during emergencies. Nicola explained the San Vicente Pumping Facilities include a pump station and a surge tank. The pump station will be located in the valley near the current San Vicente Pipeline Portal and will be visible from the San Vicente marina access road. Nicola also showed a design rendering of the pumping facility. It will be a split-faced masonry block building and landscaped with native vegetation. The three million-gallon round water storage surge tank will be located at the top of the hill. It will be built in a basin so only 20 feet will be visible from the top of the hill. Once in place, water will be pumped from San Vicente Reservoir to the surge control facility, and then flow by gravity through the San Vicente Pipeline tunnel to connect to the Second Aqueduct near Interstate 15.

Brent Fountain, assistant construction administrator for the pumping facilities, explained the contract for the project was awarded to Kiewit Pacific Company in December 2006. In January 2007, Kiewit mobilized and began preparing for construction. Brent announced the first blast

occurred on Monday, Feb. 20, 2007, and blasting activities will continue through July 2007. Due to blasting and construction activities near the marina access road, the reservoir will be closed Monday through Friday. Boating will be permitted only on Saturday and Sunday, and holidays during this time. Due to construction activities, no parking or queuing is allowed for vehicles, boats, or trailers on the marina access road until after 4 p.m. on Fridays. The reservoir should be open on its normal Thursday-through-Sunday schedule during the peak use months, May through September 2007. From October 2007 through April 2008, the reservoir will be closed Monday through Friday due to construction activities.

Questions and Comments During the Presentation:

- C. Gordon Shackelford understands the pumping facilities will use one to two percent of electricity from SDGE's overall capacity. He has read the pumping facilities will pick up some of the electricity (approximately 15 mega watts) from a substation in Lakeside. He feels that is a big draw on the electricity that serves Lakeside. He feels this issue needs to be addressed, so the local quality of power for Lakeside is not diminished.
- Q. How will the electricity be provided to the pumping facilities? Will it be power lines or towers?
- A. Nicola explained the electricity will be held in power lines. She suggested discussing electrical concerns with the pumping facilities in more detail at a future planning group meeting. She stated one of the electrical engineers working on the project will also attend the next meeting to provide more information and answer questions about electrical issues. The planning group's chair suggested a SDG&E representative attend.

San Vicente Pipeline Update

Andrew Oleksyn, assistant construction administrator for the San Vicente Pipeline project, provided an update on construction for the San Vicente Pipeline project. The project consists of an 11-mile long pipeline in a tunnel that will connect San Vicente Reservoir to the Second Aqueduct located just west of Interstate 15 at Mercy Road. It will allow water stored in San Vicente Reservoir to be pumped to the pipelines in the Second Aqueduct to use in emergency situations. The San Vicente Pipeline will be constructed in a tunnel to minimize the environmental and community impacts. There are four construction access points – one at either end of the project, the San Vicente Portal and the West Shaft, and two in the middle, the Central Shaft and Slaughterhouse Shaft. Andrew explained the Slaughterhouse Shaft and the San Vicente Portal are the closest access points to the Lakeside community. He also explained the drilling and blasting that has occurred over the past year and a half at the Slaughterhouse Shaft to prepare for the tunnel boring machine will be completed by Feb. 25, 2007. At the Central Shaft, the tunneling machine has hit harder ground than what was expected, so it has been operating at a slower rate than originally anticipated. It should be digging about 90 feet per day, but instead it's only been digging approximately 40 feet per day. Currently, the machine has tunneled 4,000 feet. The project is scheduled to be complete in December 2008, but this delay could push the end date to the first half of 2009.

Questions and Comments During the Presentation:

- Q. Were you expecting to hit harder ground with the Friars formations at the Central Shaft?

- A. Andrew explained the bands of cementation in the tunnel were harder rock than expected. At this point, the work is located 75 feet underground.
- Q. When did you find groundwater during the construction and how much have you encountered throughout construction?
- A. At Slaughterhouse shaft, we encountered groundwater when we reached a depth of 20 to 30 feet. We have consistently found 60 to 70 gallons of water per minute.
- Q. Why were you not able to anticipate hitting hard rock during construction of the pipeline?
- A. We conducted geotechnical drilling at 35 locations along the pipeline route to examine what types of rock existed there. Through that work we were able to identify some areas of cementation in the conglomerate, but what we are encountering is harder than expected.

Carryover Storage and San Vicente Dam Raise Project Update

Shannon Reed, public affairs representative, explained the Water Authority is working on the draft environmental impact report to evaluate the impacts of potentially raising the San Vicente Dam higher than what is already planned. This would enable the Water Authority to store more water at the reservoir. The Draft EIR document should be released on May 30, 2007 which will commence a 45-day review period. **(Note: As of April 13, 2007, the draft EIR will be released on July 6, 2007.)** During that time, a public hearing will be held in Lakeside to give community members an opportunity to provide comments on the draft document. Shannon also announced community tours of the dam will be offered in March and April prior to the release of the draft EIR. **(Note: The community tours will be held on April 25, 2007 and May 19, 2007.)** She stated four announcements will be sent out soon.

Questions and Comments During the Presentation:

- C. Gordon feels there are several major issues with the San Vicente Dam Raise project. He feels the current dam design is only an "artist's conception" and is lacking an engineering basis. The project needs an engineering basis to determine if it is a viable project. He said he is also skeptical of using roller compacted concrete to construct a new dam on top of an existing dam because he feels there is not historical proof that it can be done successfully. He is also concerned about the hybrid construction technology that will be used on the project.
- R. Andrew stated the detailed design for the San Vicente Dam Raise project will be completed over the next year and a half. The design for the dam will have to be approved by the Division of Safety of Dams, which is a rigorous process. The project team has already begun working with representatives from that division. He explained the existing dam is in good condition. It has been proven that roller compacted concrete can be stronger than conventional concrete because it uses less water while applied.
- Q. If the design for the project will not be complete for a year and a half, how does that relate to the draft EIR?
- A. Andrew explained the environmental studies are based on the height, volume, and cross section of the dam, which will not change much for the project. There will also be a detailed excavation for the foundation of the new dam.

- C. Janis Shackelford made a comment that the City of San Diego is developing a Flood Control Plan for Mission Valley that should include a Water Management Plan for the San Vicente Reservoir.
