The following project update is provided to keep the community groups informed of the San Vicente Pipeline construction progress.

Pipe Installation Complete
All the pipe segments have been installed in the tunnel for the 11-mile-long pipeline. In January, crews installed the final 50-foot-long pipe segment in the tunnel and completed all the welding work. The contractor used 1,145 pipe sections to build the pipeline. Currently, grout work is under way on the eastern half of the tunnel, which involves pumping grout to fill the space between the outside of the pipe and the tunnel walls to ensure the pipe remains in place and is protected from corrosion. This work is expected to be complete in March. In Lakeside, the contractor will continue to use San Vicente Portal and Slaughterhouse Shaft to support these activities.

Earlier this month, a large, “Y”-shaped piece of pipe was delivered and set in place at the entrance to the San Vicente Portal. This pipe weighs 80,000 pounds and is 25 feet long. It will connect the San Vicente Pipeline to the nearby pump station to help move water from San Vicente Reservoir to the pipeline for emergency water deliveries.

On the western half of the tunnel, the contractor is currently working on the application of cement mortar lining to the inside of the pipe to further prevent corrosion. The West Shaft is located west of Interstate 15 at Mercy Road. From now until the completion of the project, this will remain a busy construction site. The contractor will connect the new pipeline to existing water facilities at this location and will complete grading, fencing, landscaping, and road improvements to restore the area. All work for the pipeline is scheduled to be complete in late summer 2010.

The Purpose of the San Vicente Pipeline
The 11-mile-long San Vicente Pipeline is a key component of the San Diego County Water Authority’s Emergency Storage Project. The pipeline will create a water supply link between San Vicente Reservoir and the Water Authority’s Second Aqueduct, allowing water to be delivered to agencies in the southern portion of the county in an emergency. The project will also improve the Water Authority’s ability to move large quantities of water into storage, when it is available. If you have additional questions or would like to receive more information
about the San Vicente Pipeline Project or the Emergency Storage Project, please contact Gina Molise, Water Authority senior public affairs representative, at (858) 522-6706. You can also call toll free (877) 426-2010, email ESPinfo@sdcwa.org, or visit the website at cip-esp.sdcwa.org (click on “San Vicente Pipeline”).

The last pipe segment for the pipeline, installed in the tunnel in January 2010.

This “Y”-shaped pipe was placed at the San Vicente Portal in early February 2010.