Dear Community Member,

As part of the San Diego County Water Authority’s San Vicente Pipeline project, a tunnel is being excavated from San Vicente Reservoir to just west of I-15 at Mercy Road. Tunneling machines and controlled blasting are the two methods being used to excavate the tunnel. The tunnel will not pass directly under any homes.

A 550-foot-long section of tunnel near your home cannot be mined using a tunneling machine, so controlled blasting techniques will be used instead. The tunneling work will be 215-275 feet below the surface. **Blast vibrations will be monitored at the surface to ensure they are within strict limits. Damage to structures at the surface is highly unlikely.**

While the precise start date of controlled blasting will depend on tunneling conditions, blasting could begin as soon as September 6, 2007. It will take three to four months to complete the 550-foot-long section. With over 200 feet of earth cover over the tunnel, you should not hear any noise from the blasting and again, vibrations will be limited to very low levels. There may be up to three controlled blasts per day and they are allowed to occur 24 hours a day.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly and I will be happy to speak to you.

Sincerely,

Shannon Reed
Public Affairs Representative
San Diego County Water Authority
(858) 522-6724
sreed@sdcwa.org

The San Vicente Pipeline is a part of the Water Authority’s Emergency Storage Project, 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. More information about the San Vicente Pipeline project is available at www.sdcwa.org. Click on “Infrastructure,” then “ESP,” then “San Vicente Pipeline.” You can also call the toll-free project information line at (877) 426-2010 or email ESPinfo@sdcwa.org.