The following project update is being provided to keep the Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Group informed of the San Vicente Pipeline construction progress.

**Tunneling Progress**
There are four construction access points to build the 11-mile San Vicente Pipeline. Two are located at each end of the project; one near the base of San Vicente Dam, called the San Vicente Portal and the other, near the Second Aqueduct off of I-15 at Mercy Road, is the West Shaft. The Central Shaft is located south of the Beeler Canyon community within StoneBridge Estates. The fourth is located off of Slaughterhouse Canyon Road in Lakeside and is called the Slaughterhouse Shaft.

There are three locations where tunnel excavation is now occurring. One tunneling machine is excavating from the West Shaft going east. Another machine from the Slaughterhouse Shaft is tunneling toward the Central Shaft. Controlled blasting methods are being used from the Central Shaft tunneling westward.

Approximately 43 percent of the tunnel has been excavated. Approximately 11,000 feet has been tunneled at the east end of the project, about 12,000 feet has been tunneled westward from the Central Shaft, and 1,400 feet has been excavated from the West Shaft going east. Overall tunneling progress for the San Vicente Pipeline continues to be slower than planned due to harder-than-anticipated ground conditions. The resulting delays have pushed back the project completion date nearly two years, with the project now scheduled to be finished in late 2010.

**West Shaft**
The following summary focuses on the work at the West Shaft based on the planning group’s interest in that site.
The West Shaft is located off of I-15 at the Mercy Road exit on the northwest corner of I-15. The shaft at this location is an excavation hole 115-foot deep and 36 feet in diameter. A tunneling machine is being used to excavate a 4,400-foot section of tunnel going eastward. Another tunnel coming from the east will meet this tunnel section. Currently, 1,400 feet of tunnel has been excavated from the West Shaft.

There are two work shifts at the West Shaft. Nighttime work is underground maintenance only. The excavated material is stockpiled and then transported, in large quantities, off the site. The trucks avoid hauling the material during the morning commute.

The Purpose of the San Vicente Pipeline
The San Vicente Pipeline projects are key components of the San Diego County Water Authority’s Emergency Storage Project and are important investments in San Diego County’s water reliability. The Emergency Storage Project will protect San Diego County by increasing the amount of water available for use if the county’s imported water supply is severed. The pipeline projects will create a water distribution link from San Vicente Reservoir to the Water Authority’s Second Aqueduct which will allow water to be distributed to agencies in the southern portion of the county in an emergency. The projects will also improve the Water Authority’s ability to move large quantities of water into storage when available.

For more information about the San Diego County Water Authority’s Emergency Storage Project or the San Vicente Pipeline Projects, please call toll free (877) 426-2010, email ESPinfo@sdcwa.org, or visit our website at www.sdcwa.org.