San Vicente Pipeline
Project Update
November 2009

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

Pipe Installation

Now that tunneling is complete on the eastern half of the tunnel, crews are preparing to install steel pipe between the San Vicente Portal and Central Shaft. Currently, 50-foot-long sections of pipe are being delivered to the San Vicente Portal in Lakeside. Once the pipe segments are on site, crews will move them into the tunnel and haul them up to four miles inside the tunnel toward the Central Shaft. When all the pipe segments are in place, crews will pump grout material outside the pipe to secure it within the tunnel. The contractor anticipates completing all the pipe installation work for the eastern half of the tunnel in the spring.

On the western half of the tunnel, the contractor completed pipe installation and grouting in October 2009. The final step includes applying cement mortar lining to the inside of the pipe to further prevent corrosion and connecting the new pipeline to existing water facilities. Above ground, the contractor will complete grading, fencing, and road improvements to restore the construction area at the West Shaft. The West Shaft is located west of Interstate 15 at Mercy Road.

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”).

Crew members pose in front of the tunnel breakthrough at the Central Shaft in September.

50-foot-long pipe segments being lowered into the tunnel.