

**CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**MARCH 3, 2004 - Water Resources**  
Morse, Cole  
**MARCH 22, 2004 - Board Meeting**  
Prepared by: Paul Cook  
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Approved by: Darryl G. Miller

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PLAN (WQPP) AGREEMENT AMENDMENT**

**SUMMARY:**

The WQPP is a project to mitigate and clean up volatile organic compound (VOC) contaminated groundwater in the Whittier Narrows area. Two extraction Wells will convey flows to a Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Treatment Plant that will treat the water for potable distribution. The product water will be wheeled to water purveyors through the City of Whittier's pump station.

**Construction Update**

Construction is substantially complete on the WQPP Treatment Plant. All of the improvements necessary to treat the groundwater are in-place and operational. The vendor supplying the GAC treatment system vessels, Calgon Carbon, delivered and installed the carbon material into the ten GAC vessels in the last week of February. Remaining work includes installing improvements necessary to deliver treated water into the participating purveyors' potable water systems. The design-builder has indicated that these improvements will be installed while the WQPP is going through the start-up phase, during which water quality data is collected and analyzed by staff and the Department of Health Services (DHS). During start-up, the treated water is discharged to the San Gabriel River where it will flow into the Montebello Forebay for re-charge.

Staff expects to continue start-up on the WQPP Treatment Plant through March 2004 with acceptance of the system by DHS expected in late March or early April 2004. As the plant operates during the four to six-week start-up phase, data (primarily water quality data) will be collected and submitted to DHS for their review. Upon approval from DHS as a public water system, the WQPP will pump the treated water to the City of Whittier's potable water system, to be distributed to the Cities of Pico Rivera and Santa Fe Springs water distribution systems.

**California Department of Health Services Coordination**

Staff continues to receive and respond to comments from the DHS regarding the Abbreviated 97-005 Permit and the Domestic Water Supply Permit, submitted to DHS in November 2003. Central Basin is also assisting the participating purveyors (Whittier, Santa Fe Springs, and Pico Rivera) with the amendments necessary to their respective Drinking Water Supply Permits so they can accept water produced by the WQPP into their systems.

### **WQPP Participating Purveyor Coordination**

Along with working with the aforementioned cities to amend their respective drinking water permits, staff also continues coordination to ensure that all physical improvements are constructed and operational needs are addressed to ensure that each purveyor will be ready to receive a steady flow of water from the WQPP. Since the City of Pico Rivera is now beginning to fluoridate its entire potable water supply system, the WQPP water delivered to Pico Rivera will also be fluoridated. Central Basin is nearing completion of a fluoridation station at the WQPP that will inject fluoride into the Pico Rivera supply line only. The City of Pico Rivera has agreed to operate this new fluoridation station under its DHS permit. A proposed amendment to the Pico Rivera Purveyor Agreement (Amendment No. 1) addressing the operational issues for Pico Rivera to operate the new fluoride injection facility has been drafted, and is attached as Exhibit "A". Staff is recommending that the Board authorizes the General Manager to execute this proposed amendment, as to form.

Staff has also identified two existing pipelines within Whittier's Pumping Plant No. 2 site that Whittier is willing to let Central Basin use for the WQPP operation. One pipe is an existing sewer lateral that is required for the WQPP to discharge backwash water. The other pipe is a drain line/outfall structure to the San Gabriel River through which the WQPP can discharge treated water (in compliance with all NPDES permit requirements). By using these lines, Central Basin will reduce the overall project costs by not having to construct two new pipelines. Central Basin's Legal Counsel has drafted an amendment to the Central Basin/Whittier Cooperative Agreement (Amendment No. 1) addressing the terms under which Central Basin can utilize these pipelines. Staff recommends that the Board authorizes the General Manager to execute this proposed Amendment No. 1 to the Central Basin/Whittier Cooperative Agreement, as to form.

#### **FISCAL IMPACTS:**

Funds are included in the Capital Improvement budget for fiscal year 2003-04 and the Operations budget for the fiscal years 2003-04 and 2004-05. All expenditures on the WQPP are to be reimbursed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

The Board finalized the CEQA documentation in September 2001. Staff has received a letter from DHS confirming that the project is only subject to a modified impaired water source 97-005 assessment process.

Compliance water quality testing is required under the appropriate regulatory permits as follows: a Public Water System Operating Permit under Title 22 drinking water regulations, an NPDES Permit for Well maintenance and line flushing discharge activities, and a County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County Permit for the Treatment Plant backwash discharge.

#### **COMMITTEE STATUS:**

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on March 3, 2004 and recommended for approval at the March 22, 2004 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED MOTIONS:

That the Board authorizes the General Manager to:

1. Execute Amendment No. 1 to the Purveyor Agreement with the City of Pico Rivera, as to form; and
2. Execute Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Agreement with the Whittier Utility Authority, as to form.

EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" - Central Basin/Pico Rivera Purveyor Agreement Amendment No. 1 (draft)

Exhibit "B" - Whittier Utility Authority Cooperative Agreement Amendment No. 1 (draft)

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