



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Lower Colorado Regional Office
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LC-4220
WTR-4.03

DEC 27 2013

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Roger K. Patterson
Assistant General Manager
Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Subject: Approval of Calendar Year 2014 Colorado River Diversion for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)

Dear Mr. Patterson:

In accordance with Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations Part 417 (Part 417), this letter provides MWD with notice of my determination regarding MWD's proposed diversion and beneficial use of Colorado River water for calendar year 2014.

By letter dated September 12, 2013, MWD submitted a request to consumptively use up to 679,750 acre-feet of Colorado River water during calendar year 2014. MWD's Colorado River water entitlement is based on the California Seven-Party Agreement of 1931, MWD's 1930 Colorado River Water Delivery Contract with the Bureau of Reclamation, as supplemented, and the 2003 Colorado River Water Delivery Agreement (CRWDA), which quantifies certain Colorado River water entitlements within the state of California.

Of California's basic Colorado River apportionment of 4.4 million acre-feet, it is anticipated that 546,660 acre-feet will be available for consumptive use by MWD in calendar year 2014. Based upon this estimate, a review of the calendar year 2014 diversion estimate provided by MWD, the information gathered during Reclamation's annual Part 417 consultation process, and the terms of the CRWDA, I approve the diversion of up to 549,763 acre-feet of Colorado River water by MWD during calendar year 2014. As in recent years, I also approve the diversion by MWD in calendar year 2014 of the unused California adjusted apportionment of Colorado River water as reflected on Reclamation's website to the extent such water becomes available.

This approval incorporates MWD's plan to create up to 200,000 acre-feet of Extraordinary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) in calendar year 2014. This approval does not include delivery of ICS in 2014. Should MWD elect to take delivery of ICS during calendar year 2014, MWD is required to submit to Reclamation a revised diversion request indicating the amount of ICS MWD will take.

The table on the following page provides the details of the data used to develop MWD's approved diversion for calendar year 2014.

| Water Budget Item | Amount¹ |
|--|---------------------------|
| Priority 4 Water | 550,000 |
| 1988 Imperial Irrigation District (IID)-MWD Water Conservation Program | 85,000 |
| Coachella Canal Lining Project (CCLP) Conserved Water (MWD exchange with San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA)) | 21,500 |
| CCLP Conservation (Supplemental Water) | 4,500 |
| CCLP Conservation Mitigation Water ² | -- |
| All-American Canal Lining Project Conserved Water (MWD exchange with SDCWA) | 56,200 |
| All-American Canal Lining Project Conserved Water (Supplemental Water) | 11,500 |
| IID Transfer to SDCWA (MWD Exchange with SDCWA) | 100,000 |
| Priorities 1, 2, and 3b Consumptive Use Above 420,000 acre-feet | (86,971) |
| Unused Priority 3a | -- |
| Miscellaneous and Indian Present Perfected Right Consumptive Use | (1,969) |
| Lower Colorado Water Supply Project | 6,900 |
| MWD-Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) Exchange of State Water Project Water | -- |
| Creation of Extraordinary Conservation ICS Water | (200,000) |
| Delivery of Extraordinary Conservation ICS Water | -- |
| Delivery of System Efficiency ICS Water | -- |
| Total Approved Consumptive Use | 546,660 |
| Emergency Delivery to Tijuana, Mexico | -- |
| Estimated Returns | 3,103 |
| Total Approved Diversion | 549,763 |

¹All values in acre-feet.

²The approved diversion does not include the 4,850 acre-feet of CCLP-conserved water that has been assigned to CVWD for mitigation requirements associated with the CCLP. Following receipt of CVWD's mitigation water use report in December 2014, the approved 2014 diversion contained in this letter may be amended to include any unused mitigation water.

The approval is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) The data on Reclamation's website are provisional until final records are issued. MWD diversions occurring as a result of the values on the website are at MWD's own risk.
- (2) All available Colorado River water within the state of California has been approved for beneficial use within the state. The approved amounts remain available to the senior priority entitlement holders. In cases where approvals to senior entitlement holders are less than the diversions allowed by their entitlements, the approvals may be increased to their full entitlements as defined in their contracts.
- (3) Final accounting records published by Reclamation may differ from the provisional data on Reclamation's website. Adjustments to the final records may result in an inadvertent overrun by MWD.
- (4) MWD will be required to pay back any overrun according to the Inadvertent Overrun and Payback Policy.

- (5) Reclamation may at any time rescind this approval to divert unused California adjusted apportionment of Colorado River water.

Reclamation will monitor and project diversions and consumptive use of Colorado River water during calendar year 2014 in an effort to ensure each entitlement holder's annual approval is not exceeded. Beginning in February 2014, these projections will be available to water users on a daily basis on Reclamation's website: www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/hourly/forecast14.pdf. It is expected that entitlement holders within the state of California will use this information to adjust diversions to remain within approved annual quantities or, as appropriate, seek modification of the approval.

Reclamation notes that California's 2012 agricultural use relative to the 2012 agricultural benchmark and annual target remains a matter of interest among Reclamation, the California parties to the CRWDA, and the Basin States. We appreciate MWD's efforts to engage in discussions regarding this issue.

Thank you for submitting MWD's diversion estimate for 2014. If you have questions, please contact Mr. Paul Matuska, Water Accounting and Verification Group Manager, at 702-293-8164.

Sincerely,



Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D.
Regional Director

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