



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the General Manager
September 15, 2015

Mr. Paul J. Matuska
Group Manager
Lower Colorado Regional Office
U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
P.O. Box 61470
Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

Dear Mr. Matuska:

Estimates of Metropolitan Monthly Diversions for Calendar Year 2016

This letter is in response to your August 3, 2015, letter to Mr. Roger K. Patterson requesting The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (Metropolitan): (1) best estimates of monthly diversion requirements for calendar year 2016, and (2) completion of a questionnaire as part of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) consultations under Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 417. This letter also addresses Metropolitan's previously transmitted Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) plan for 2016.

Estimate of Metropolitan Diversions for Calendar Year 2016

Metropolitan's initial estimate of its diversions for calendar year 2016 totals 764,381 acre-feet (AF). Metropolitan's estimate of its available supply during the year and a projected monthly diversion schedule is tabulated in Enclosure 1. The details behind a number of components of Metropolitan's estimate of available supply are described in Enclosure 2.

Estimated available supply is based on an ICS Surplus determination and projected use of water by holders of present perfected rights and priorities 1 through 3 in California. Metropolitan has the capability to divert and beneficially use more than 1.25 million AF in calendar year 2016; however, that full amount of water may not be available to Metropolitan or necessary during the year. If unused California apportionment not incorporated in the tabulation of Enclosure 1 becomes available during the year, Metropolitan plans to divert such water. Metropolitan may also develop additional water conservation programs or make interstate storage and release arrangements with Nevada or Arizona agencies which could affect the amount of water available for diversion in 2016. Any such new arrangements would be followed with a revised estimate of 2016 diversions.

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The diversion estimate shown in Enclosure 1 incorporates Metropolitan's plan to create 200,000 AF of Extraordinary Conservation ICS during calendar year 2016 as documented in Metropolitan's June 30, 2015, letter to Mr. Steve Hvinden. Metropolitan's plan to create 200,000 AF of Extraordinary Conservation ICS is based on projections of monthly demands for Metropolitan's supplies by its member agencies and the supply of water that may be available to Metropolitan from the State Water Project during calendar year 2016. As the calendar year progresses, Metropolitan may find it necessary to divert additional Colorado River water, including some or all of the water made available by the extraordinary conservation described in the ICS creation plan. Furthermore, if needed due to unforeseen circumstances, Metropolitan may request delivery from its ICS accounts. If conditions require a modification to its ICS plan, Metropolitan will submit to Reclamation a revised estimate of its diversions for calendar year 2016.

Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire

Metropolitan's responses to the Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire are contained in Enclosure 3.

If you have any questions regarding Metropolitan's estimate of diversions or the Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire responses, please contact Mr. Tom Ryan at (213) 217-6140.

Very truly yours,



Deven N. Upadhyay
Manager, Water Resource Management

TJR:vsm

Enclosures (3)

cc: Mr. Dan Denham
Colorado River Program Manager
San Diego County Water Authority
4677 Overland Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123

Metropolitan's Initial Estimate of Diversions from the Colorado River for Calendar Year 2016

| Water Budget Item | Amount (acre-feet) |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Priority 4 | 550,000 |
| Imperial Irrigation District (IID)-Metropolitan Water Conservation Program | 85,000 |
| Coachella Canal Lining Project (Metropolitan Exchange with San Diego County Water Authority [SDCWA]) | 23,920 |
| Coachella Canal Lining Project (<i>2003 Allocation Agreement</i>) | 4,500* |
| All-American Canal Lining Project (Metropolitan Exchange with SDCWA) | 56,200 |
| All-American Canal Lining Project (<i>2003 Allocation Agreement</i>) | 11,500* |
| IID Transfer to SDCWA (Metropolitan Exchange with SDCWA) | 100,000 |
| Priority 1, 2, and 3b Use Below 420,000 Acre-feet (Amount Influenced by Metropolitan Funded Palo Verde Irrigation District Forbearance and Fallowing Program) | 124,000 |
| Unused Priority 3a | 0 |
| Miscellaneous and Indian Present Perfected Rights Use | -680 |
| Lower Colorado Water Supply Project | 6,850 |
| Total Supply Available for Consumptive Use | 961,290 |
| Creation of Extraordinary Conservation ICS | -200,000 |
| Total Consumptive Use | 761,290 |
| Return Flow Credit | 3,091 |
| Total Diversion | 764,381 |

* See table on following page for scheduled monthly diversions of water to be made available to Metropolitan pursuant to §7.6 of the October 2003 *Allocation Agreement*.

| Month | Gross Diversion | 2003 Allocation Agreement Water Diversions | Return Flow |
|--------------|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| January | 105,734 | 1,355 | 278 |
| February | 22,313 | 1,268 | 252 |
| March | 105,734 | 1,358 | 274 |
| April | 102,323 | 1,311 | 255 |
| May | 105,734 | 1,355 | 284 |
| June | 102,323 | 1,311 | 244 |
| July | 105,734 | 1,355 | 232 |
| August | 58,845 | 1,355 | 236 |
| September | 13,683 | 1,311 | 253 |
| October | 14,139 | 1,355 | 249 |
| November | 13,683 | 1,311 | 253 |
| December | 14,139 | 1,355 | 281 |
| | | | |
| Total | 764,381 | 16,000 | 3,091 |

Details of Metropolitan's Tabulation of Estimated Available Supply for Calendar Year 2016

Allocation of Water from the Coachella Canal Lining Project

The "Interim Determination by the Secretary of the Interior of the Quantity of Water Conserved by the Coachella Canal Lining Project and the Amount of Water Available for Allocation" (Determination), made on January 31, 2008, concluded that 30,850 acre-feet will be conserved from the Coachella Canal Lining Project beginning in 2009 through the term of the *Allocation Agreement*. The Determination provides that the volume of water available for allocation shall be the quantity conserved minus the volume of water taken from the Coachella Canal that is used for Project mitigation.

As the conditions specified in Sections 7.2.1 and 7.2.2 of the *Allocation Agreement* have not yet been satisfied, 4,500 acre-feet (AF) is assumed to be available to Metropolitan in 2016. The remaining supply is available for allocation to the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority). Also, for the purposes of estimating Metropolitan's diversions for 2016 it is assumed that 2,430 AF would be taken from the Coachella Canal for Project mitigation based on the amount used in 2014.

The Determination provides that the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) will review the amount of conserved water used for mitigation purposes on or near December 1 before allocating additional water, if any, to the Water Authority. Metropolitan urges Reclamation to undertake its review at the earliest possible time and to promptly notify Metropolitan of any adjustment to the volume of conserved water allocated to the Water Authority.

Allocation of Water from the All-American Canal Lining Project

The "Interim Determination by the Secretary of the Interior of the Quantity of Water Conserved by the All-American Canal Lining Project and the Amount of Water Available for Allocation", made on December 4, 2009, confirmed that the amount of water available for allocation is 67,700 AF per year unless reduced by uncontrollable force or Colorado River shortage conditions. As the conditions specified in Sections 7.2.1 and 7.2.2 of the *Allocation Agreement* have not yet been satisfied, 11,500 AF is assumed to be available to Metropolitan in 2016. The remaining supply of 56,200 AF is available for allocation to the Water Authority.

Unused Priority 1, 2, and 3b

Metropolitan's estimate of available supply assumes that 2015 consumptive use under priorities 1, 2, and 3b would be 420,000 AF less the volume of water saved under the Palo Verde Irrigation District/Metropolitan Forbearance and Fallowing Program. Metropolitan estimates that the 2016 savings from the Fallowing Program will be 124,000 acre-feet. Metropolitan understands that its supply is impacted by actual use under priorities 1, 2, and 3b pursuant to the October 10, 2003, *Colorado River Water Delivery Agreement*.

Unused Priority 3a

Metropolitan's estimate of available supply does not include unused Priority 3a water that may become available.

Lower Colorado Water Supply Project

It is estimated that approximately 6,850 AF of the yield of the Lower Colorado Water Supply Project (LCWSP) will be available to Metropolitan from the two existing LCWSP wells and assuming the third and fourth LCWSP wells become operational in November 2016.