



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of the General Manager

September 15, 2017

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 2018

This letter is in response to your August 1, 2017 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 2018 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 2018.

**Estimate of Metropolitan Diversions for Calendar Year 2018**

Metropolitan's initial estimate of its diversions for calendar year 2018 totals 605,201 acre-feet. 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 acre-feet in calendar year 2018, however, that full amount of water may not be available to Metropolitan during the year. Should unused California apportionment not incorporated in the tabulation of Enclosure 1 become 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 2018. Any such new arrangements would be followed with a revised estimate of 2018 diversions.

The diversion estimate shown in Enclosure 1 incorporates Metropolitan's plan to create 390,000 acre-feet of Extraordinary Conservation ICS during calendar year 2018 as documented in Metropolitan's August 24, 2017, letter to Mr. Steve Hvinden. Metropolitan's plan to create 390,000 acre-feet 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 2018. As the calendar year progresses, Metropolitan may find it necessary to divert additional Colorado River water,

Mr. Paul J. Matuska  
Page 2  
September 15, 2017

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 2018.

**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:rr

Enclosures (3)

cc: Mr. Dan Denham  
Assistant General 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 2018

<b>Water Budget Item</b>	<b>Amount (acre-feet)</b>
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])	22,078
Coachella Canal Lining Project (2003 Allocation Agreement)	4,500
All-American Canal Lining Project (Metropolitan Exchange with SDCWA)	56,200
All-American Canal Lining Project (2003 Allocation Agreement)	11,500
IID Transfer to SDCWA (Metropolitan Exchange with SDCWA)	130,000
Priority 1, 2, and 3b Use Below 420,000 Acre-feet (Amount Influenced by Metropolitan Funded Palo Verde Irrigation District Forbearance and Fallowing Program)	123,624
Unused Priority 3a	0
Miscellaneous and Indian Present Perfected Rights Use	0
Lower Colorado Water Supply Project	9,503
<b>Total Supply Available for Consumptive Use</b>	<b>992,405</b>
Creation of Extraordinary Conservation ICS	-390,000
<b>Total Consumptive Use</b>	<b>602,405</b>
Return Flow Credit	2,796
<b>Total Diversion</b>	<b>605,201</b>

<b>Month</b>	<b>Gross Diversion</b>	<b>Return Flow</b>
January	56,555	242
February	23,717	221
March	45,609	233
April	68,414	212
May	70,694	224
June	68,414	201
July	70,694	195
August	70,694	236
September	68,414	230
October	20,624	256
November	20,624	258
December	20,748	288
Total (acre-feet)	605,201	2,796

Details of Metropolitan's Tabulation of Estimated Available Supply for Calendar Year 2018**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 (AF) 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.

Of the amount available for allocation, 4,500 AF is assumed to be available for the benefit of the San Luis Rey Settlement Parties in 2018. However, in a May 30, 2017 letter to the City of Escondido's Utilities Director and Vista Irrigation District's Director of Water Resources, San Diego County Water Authority's (Water Authority) General Manager stated "Because no order was placed by April 1, 2017, under the Agreement we do not believe the Water Authority is contractually required to deliver Supplemental Water to the Settlement Parties until July of 2018." In accordance with Section 7.6 of the *Allocation Agreement*, water available to but not delivered for the benefit of the San Luis Rey Settlement Parties is to be made available to Metropolitan in 2018. The remaining supply is available for allocation to the Water Authority. Also, for the purposes of estimating Metropolitan's diversions for 2018 it is assumed that 4,272 AF would be taken from the Coachella Canal for Project mitigation based on the amount used in 2016.

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. Of the amount available for allocation, 11,500 AF is assumed to be available for the benefit of the San Luis Rey Settlement Parties in 2018. Noting the statement made in the Water Authority's May 30, 2017 letter, water available to but not delivered for the benefit of the San Luis Rey Settlement Parties is to be made available to Metropolitan in 2018 in accordance with Section 7.6 of the *Allocation Agreement*. 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 priority 1, 2, and 3b use would be below 420,000 AF with the amount influenced by the Palo Verde Irrigation District/Metropolitan Forbearance and Fallowing Program. Metropolitan estimates that priority 1, 2, and 3b use will be 123,624 AF below 420,000 AF. 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**

Reclamation's Yuma Area Office estimates that 10,000 AF of water will be available from the four Lower Colorado Water Supply Project (LCWSP) wells. Deducting the amount of water used by others in 2015, Metropolitan estimates that 9,503 AF of the yield of the LCWSP will be available to Metropolitan.