



MWD
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Executive Office

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November 18, 2003

VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

Mr. Robert W. Johnson
 Regional Director
 Lower Colorado Regional Office
 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
 P.O. Box 61470
 Boulder City, NV 89006-1470

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Proposed Revised Monthly Schedule for Calendar Year 2003 Colorado River Net Diversions

Cy:1000

In your letter of November 3, 2003, you requested that The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California submit a revised monthly diversion schedule for November and December 2003, that reflects the new approved annual diversion of 583,432 acre-feet, which includes 641 acre-feet of water to be delivered to Tijuana per their emergency delivery request. Metropolitan's Chief Executive Officer, Ronald R. Gastelum, has asked me to reply to your letter.

In your letter, you indicated that the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) would continue to monitor and project consumptive use of Colorado River water during calendar year 2003. Metropolitan reviewed these projections¹ on November 18 and found that certain districts in California, Arizona, and Nevada are projected to use less water than previously approved. These projections indicate that 2,584 acre-feet and 2,562 acre-feet are forecasted to be unused by Arizona and Nevada, respectively. The Annual Operating Plan for Colorado River Reservoirs² transmitted by the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to the Governors of the Colorado River Basin states on December 16, 2002 indicates that if any unused apportionment is available, the Secretary shall allocate any such water for 2003 in accordance with Article II(B)(6) of the Decree³ and Section 1(B) of the Interim Surplus Guidelines (Guidelines).

Under Section 1(B) of the Guidelines, the Secretary is to allocate such water, first, to meet the Direct Delivery Domestic Use requirements of Metropolitan and Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), allocated as agreed by Metropolitan and SNWA.⁴ Metropolitan and SNWA have agreed that any unused Arizona basic apportionment shall be allocated by the Secretary to

¹ At <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/ra/acion/g4000/hourly/forecast03.htm>.

² Page 3.

³ In *Arizona v. California*.

⁴ Federal Register, January 25, 2001, page 7780.

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Metropolitan and SNWA in equal quantities. Also, our agencies have agreed that any unused Arizona basic apportionment allocated to SNWA but not used by SNWA shall be reallocated by the Secretary to Metropolitan.⁵ As Reclamation forecasts that 2,562 acre-feet of water apportioned for use in Nevada will be unused by Nevada entities collectively, the Secretary is to reallocate the unused Arizona basic apportionment to Metropolitan. Also, Reclamation can reallocate the unused Nevada basic apportionment to Metropolitan in accordance with Section 1(B) of the Guidelines.

Revised Monthly Schedule for Calendar Year 2003 Consumptive Use

Based on these facts and the terms of the Department of the Interior-Metropolitan September 28, 1931 Supplementary Contract for Delivery of Water, Metropolitan requests your approval to divert 684,917 acre-feet of water. Of the net diversion total of 680,670 acre-feet, 674,734 acre-feet would be from within California's 4.4 million acre-foot "Normal" apportionment. A classification of these diversions is shown in Enclosure 1. The remainder of the water, which Metropolitan proposes to divert, would be water apportioned to but unused by Arizona and Nevada—5,146 acre-feet, and Mexican Treaty water for Tijuana—691 acre-feet which includes system losses of 50 acre-feet between Intake Pumping Plant and the international boundary in 2003, and 99 acre-feet for 2004. Considering this, Metropolitan submits the following monthly schedule for net diversion of 680,670 acre-feet and total diversion of 684,917 acre-feet.

	Revised Diversion Request for 2003 (acre-feet)	Revised Consumptive Use Request for 2003 (acre-feet)
January	58,009	57,748
February	6,390	4,956
March	81,919	81,648
April	83,190	82,939
May	53,477	53,213
June	34,569	34,325
July	50,924	50,658
August	62,910	62,662
September	56,943	56,694
October	57,644	57,385
November	64,742	64,492
December	74,200	73,950
Total	684,917	680,670

⁵ May 16, 2002 Agreement Relating to Implementation of Interim Colorado River Surplus Guidelines between Southern Nevada Water Authority and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, page 5.

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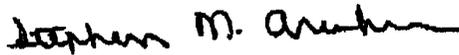
As Reclamation's forecast of unused water may be imprecise, Metropolitan is willing to adjust its operations on a weekly basis for the remainder of the year to account for week-to-week variations in Reclamation's forecast of unused water. Metropolitan's adjustments would have as the objective, ensuring that collective use of Colorado River water in Arizona, California, and Nevada does not exceed 7.5 million acre-feet this year based on Reclamation's future forecasts. Metropolitan requests that Reclamation authorize such adjustments on a categorical basis, dispensing with the need for weekly revisions to Metropolitan's request for Colorado River water and weekly consideration of such requests by Reclamation.

Operational Factors

The above diversion schedules were developed using certain assumptions and projected operating conditions. Metropolitan's actual diversions will be determined by operational factors encountered each month. As in the past, we will continue to coordinate operational requirements with Reclamation staff on a weekly basis.

If you have any questions regarding Metropolitan's proposed revised monthly schedule for Colorado River diversions, please call Dirk Marks of my staff at (213) 217-6039.

Very truly yours,



Stephen N. Arakawa
Manager, Water Resource Management

JPM:admin
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Enclosure

**Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
2003 Colorado River Net Diversion Request**

**Estimate of Normal Entitlement and
Water Apportioned to But Unused by Arizona and Nevada to be Utilized
and Mexican Treaty Water to be Diverted for Tijuana**

<u>Classification of Diversion</u>	<u>Quantity (acre-feet)</u>
Metropolitan ¹	
Normal Entitlement	550,000
Less Amount Reclamation Assumes Will be Used by Holders of Present Perfected Rights and Others and Deducted from Metropolitan's Normal Entitlement ²	-2,617
Less Amount Reclamation Projects Will be Used by Priorities 1, 2, and 3b in Excess of 420,000 Acre-feet and Deducted from Metropolitan's Normal Entitlement ³	-13,879
Imperial Irrigation District (IID)/Metropolitan Water Conservation Program ⁴	105,130
Less Amount Being Diverted by Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) at Imperial Dam (up to 20,000 acre-feet) ⁵	0
IID/San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) Transfer and Metropolitan/SDCWA Exchange	10,000
Water Unused by CVWD under Priority 3a ⁵	26,100
Subtotal	674,734
Water Apportioned to But Unused by Arizona	2,584
Water Apportioned to But Unused by Nevada	<u>2,562</u>
Total	679,880
Mexican Treaty Water for Tijuana	
2003	691
Advance Delivery for 2004	<u>99</u>
Grand Total	<u>680,670</u>

¹ From priority four under Metropolitan's 1930, 1931 and 1946 water delivery contracts with the Secretary of Interior.

² Incorporation of other than present perfected rights use, e.g. Parker Dam/Government Camp use, by Reclamation does not represent an admission by Metropolitan as to the legality of this use or diversion of this Colorado River water or agreement of the appropriate Decree accounting for this use.

³ Incorporation of Yuma Island and Ranch 5 use within Priority 2 by Reclamation does not represent an admission by Metropolitan as to the legality of this use or diversion of this Colorado River water or agreement of the appropriate Decree accounting for this use.

⁴ Water conserved by Imperial Irrigation District (IID) in accordance with 1988 and 1989 agreements, as amended.

⁵ CVWD has requested that Metropolitan divert 40,000 acre-feet of this water for CVWD's benefit. CVWD and Metropolitan are discussing this request.