



United States Department of the Interior

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

MAY 20 2019

IN REPLY REFER TO:
LC-4000
2.2.4.23

Mr. Jeffrey Kightlinger
General Manager
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, CA 90054-0153

Dear Mr. Kightlinger:

Thank you for your letter to Commissioner Burman dated May 13, 2019, submitting The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (MWD) Extraordinary Conservation Intentionally Created Surplus (EC ICS) exhibits (listed below) to the Secretary of the Interior for approval pursuant to Section IV.E.2 of Exhibit 1 to the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement. We note that the ability of the Lower Division States to create additional ICS in Lake Mead, as well the increased flexibility to use ICS, are key components of the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement to protect critical elevations at Lake Mead. The Bureau of Reclamation appreciated the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed EC ICS exhibits in their early stage of development.

Exhibit Designation	Exhibit Name
LBOps ICS Exhibit X	Metropolitan Water District – Landscape Transformation Program
LBOps ICS Exhibit Y	Metropolitan Water District – Indoor Water Conservation Devices
LBOps ICS Exhibit Z	Metropolitan Water District – Local Resources Program Additional Groundwater Recovery Projects
LBOps ICS Exhibit AA	Metropolitan Water District – Local Resources Program Recycling Projects
LBOps ICS Exhibit AB	Metropolitan Water District – Seawater Desalination Programs
LBOps ICS Exhibit AC	Metropolitan Water District – Regional Recycled Water Programs
LBOps ICS Exhibit AD	Metropolitan Water District – Seasonal Fallowing Programs

As you are aware, Section 7.B.5 of the *Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead* (2007 Interim Guidelines), provides that the Secretary shall consult with the Colorado River Basin States in the administration of the ICS program. MWD's proposed EC ICS exhibits have undergone both intra and interstate review, and Reclamation has facilitated and brought to conclusion the consultation process with the Basin States for MWD's proposed EC ICS exhibits.

Reclamation has determined that the proposed exhibits describe EC ICS projects that comport to Section 3.A.1 of the 2007 Interim Guidelines and adequately describe an approach for Reclamation to verify the conservation of water. Therefore, in accordance with Section IV.E.2 of Exhibit 1 to the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan Agreement and the 2007 Interim Guidelines, I hereby approve MWD's EC ICS exhibits. These approved exhibits will be posted on Reclamation's website soon.

Section 3.C.1 of the 2007 Interim Guidelines requires a Delivery Agreement for ICS between the ICS creator and Reclamation. Based on the approved exhibits, we will work with MWD to develop a new or amendatory ICS Delivery Agreement. Reclamation also looks forward to working with MWD each year in administering the ICS program, including the review and approval of ICS creation plans and certification reports.

If you have questions, please contact Mr. Steven Hvinden, Chief, Boulder Canyon Operations Office, at 702-293-8414 or shvinden@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,



Terrance J. Fulp, Ph.D.
Regional Director

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