

COUNTY OF SONOMA AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY REPORT			Clerk of the Board Use Only	
			Meeting Date _____	Held Until _____
			Agenda Item No: _____	Agenda Item No: _____
Department: Sonoma County Water Agency			() 4/5 Vote Required	
Contact: Michael Thompson	Phone: (707) 521-1863	Board Date: 08-25-09	Deadline for Board Action:	
AGENDA SHORT TITLE: Response to Water Contractor's Water Advisory Committee Request				
REQUESTED BOARD ACTION(S): Direct Agency's General Manager/Chief Engineer to send attached response letter to the Water Contractor's Water Advisory Committee.				
CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT				
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>			<u>ADD'L FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL</u>	
Estimated Cost	\$	-0-	Contingencies	\$
			(Fund Name:)	
Amount Budgeted	\$	-0-	Unanticipated Revenue	\$
			(Source:)	
Other Avail Approp (Explain below)	\$		Other Transfer(s)	\$
			(Source:)	
Additional Requested:	\$	-0-	Add'l Funds Requested:	\$
				-0-
Explanation (if required):				
Prior Board Action(s): May 12, 2009 – Adoption of Resolution 09-0474, declaring and impairmentof the Agency's water transmission system.				
Alternatives - Results of Non-Approval:				

Background:

On May 12, 2009, the Sonoma County Water Agency's (Agency) Board of Directors adopted Resolution 09-0474, declaring an impairment of the Agency's water transmission system due to budget constraints (Temporary Impairment). The Board declared that the capacity of the Agency's Russian River water production facilities was limited to 53 million gallons per day (mgd) average day peak month based on these restrictions. On August 3, 2009, the Water Contractor's Water Advisory Committee (WAC) passed a resolution requesting that the Agency respond to a letter prepared by the WAC's Technical Advisory Committee. The resolution and letter requests that Agency increase water deliveries during peak demand periods in order to maintain adequate storage capacity.

Storage in the Agency reservoirs reached a minimum of 84 million gallons (MG) since implementation of the Temporary Impairment (July 1 to August 15). The Agency's effective storage capacity is 110 MG and the peak demand was 59 mgd since implementation of the Temporary Impairment. By comparison, the minimum storage volume between July 1 and August 15, 2004 was 94 MG and the peak demand was 85 mgd.

While the Agency's water deliveries have been limited this year, the water conservation efforts in the Agency's service area have significantly reduced demands on the water transmission system. Additionally, there are a number of strategies available to retail water suppliers to mitigate high demand events. Because increased outdoor watering is the primary cause of peak demands during hot weather events, the Agency will send out additional water conservation messages to encourage water users in its service area to limit outdoor watering during peak demand periods

The Agency will continue to closely monitor both current storage levels and anticipated water demand trends as part of its efforts to maintain adequate storage during a prolonged heat wave that typically results in increased outdoor irrigation. In the unlikely event that storage levels decrease to levels that represent a concern for public health, the Agency would identify and implement the most feasible methods for increasing storage in the water transmission system.

Staff Recommendation: Transmit the attached letter to the Water Contractors indicating that the Agency will continue to closely monitor both current storage levels and anticipated water demand trends as part of its efforts to maintain adequate storage during a prolonged heat wave that typically results in increased outdoor irrigation; in the unlikely event that storage levels decrease to levels that represent a concern for public health, the Agency would identify and implement the most feasible methods for increasing storage in the water transmission system.

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION(S):

Direct Agency's General Manager/Chief Engineer to send attached response letter to the Water Contractor's Water Advisory Committee.

Attachments: Draft Letter to Water Advisory Committee (A1)

On File With Clerk:

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote: