

WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**AUGUST 7, 2002 – Water Resources**
McDonald, Little**AUGUST 26, 2002 – Board Meeting**

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Approved by: Darryl G. Miller

ACTION CALENDAR**MWD MEMBER AGENCY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT****SUMMARY:**

Effective water management in the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins necessarily requires close coordination and cooperation between all key stakeholders. MWD Member Agencies play a unique role in that they provide water to meet surface consumptive demands as well as groundwater replenishment and eventually, groundwater banking, and other forms of conjunctive use. Six Member Agencies have adjoining service areas completely or partially within the boundaries of the Basins: Central Basin MWD, City of Compton, City of Long Beach, City of Los Angeles, City of Torrance, and West Basin MWD.

The current manner in which the Basins are pumped, replenished, and protected has evolved over time into an interrelated set of agreements, practices, and associated investments. As new water management strategies are being considered within the Basins, such as increased recycled water injection at the West Coast Barrier or groundwater banking within the Central and West Coast Basins, it has become increasingly important to reaffirm an understanding among Member Agencies that potential impacts to water sales and existing investments must be addressed.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), included as Exhibit A, has been jointly developed by the six Member Agencies to memorialize the need to work on Basin management strategies cooperatively. Under the MOU, the Member Agencies will agree to a set of basic principles whereby no party can be financially harmed by the actions of one or more other parties without prior mutual consent or consideration of impacts through mitigation.

The MOU has a different focus and purpose than the "five-way" Member Agency agreement your Board authorized last September. That Conjunctive Use Agreement had the specific purposes of implementing the Long Beach Pilot Storage Project funded by Proposition 13 funds, and jointly pursuing other potential conjunctive use funding.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Participation in this MOU will help ensure that potential impacts from other Member Agencies to the District's revenues from the sale of water or District investments into current and future Basin management activities will be mitigated.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on August 7, 2002 and was recommended for approval at the August 26, 2002 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Authorize the General Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding, substantially similar to Exhibit A, with the Cities of Compton, Long Beach, Los Angeles and Torrance, and Central Basin MWD, to work cooperatively in the planning and implementation of alternative water management strategies in the Basins.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – Draft MOU

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