

EMERGENCY STORAGE PROJECT
San Vicente Pipeline Update
Briefing Summary

DATE: September 4, 2007

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

EVENT:

Miramar Ranch North Planning Group Meeting

MEETING LOCATION:

Scripps Ranch Community Service Center

PRESENTERS:

Wade Griffis, SDCWA
Shannon Reed, SDCWA

STAFF RESOURCES:

Emily Powell, Katz & Associates

PRESENTATION SUMMARY:

Shannon Reed, public affairs representative with the San Diego County Water Authority, announced information about the Water Authority's 20-Gallon Challenge which encourages residents to save 20 gallons of water per person, per day. She also directed people to www.bewaterwise.com and www.sdcwa.org to learn more about ways to conserve water. She introduced Wade Griffis as the construction administrator for the San Vicente Pipeline project. Wade provided the following overview of the Emergency Storage Project. Over the years, up to 90 percent of San Diego's water has been imported from the Colorado River and Northern California. There are two aqueducts that bring water to San Diego County. In the early 1990s, the Water Authority recognized that its system is vulnerable because those two aqueducts cross fault lines. If the aqueducts are severed because of an earthquake, some communities could be without water in as little as three days. To avoid this risk, the Water Authority is increasing its water storage capacity and is improving its ability to move water around the county through various capital improvement projects as part of the Emergency Storage Project.

Wade explained the San Vicente Pipeline will be 11 miles long and will connect San Vicente Reservoir to the Second Aqueduct located just west of I-15 at Mercy Road. The tunnel will be 12 feet in diameter. It will allow water stored in San Vicente Reservoir to be pumped out to the Second Aqueduct to use in emergencies. There are four construction access points – one at either end, the San Vicente Portal and the West Shaft, and two in the middle, the Central Shaft and Slaughterhouse Shaft. At the time of this meeting, the tunnel is approximately 40 percent complete which is about 4 miles.

Currently, there are three tunneling machines working at different locations. One machine is at the Central Shaft and is tunneling west. It has completed approximately 12,000 feet of the tunnel. Once that work is done, the contractor will use drilling and blasting to complete that portion of the tunnel. A second machine at the West Shaft is tunneling east and has completed approximately 800 feet of the tunnel. A third machine at the Slaughterhouse Shaft is tunneling towards the Central Shaft and has completed 1,000 feet of 22,000 total feet for that portion of the tunnel.

Recently, the contractor determined it was necessary to conduct several surface borings to further investigate some ground conditions on Scripps Poway Parkway just short of Spring Canyon Road near the Residence Inn in the evenings from 8 p.m. until 5 a.m. This work will begin on September 10 through September 25. The Water Authority has notified the residents and stakeholders within 400 feet of where the borings will occur.

Questions and Comments During the Presentation:

- Q. Will the blasting take place under any homes?
A. The drilling and blasting will not take place under homes. It is under the SDG&E easement.
- Q. What types of activities were completed as part of the pre-blast surveys? How many homes were surveyed?
A. A survey specialist hired by the contractor conducted the pre-blast surveys. The survey included video footage and photos of the house and property to verify existing conditions. The contractor identified 50 homes were located within the range of blasting, and 48 homes participated in the survey.
- Q. What is the depth of the pipeline tunnel?
A. The topography of the tunnel alignment is similar to mountain areas. The tunnel depth varies along the pipeline route from 50 to 550 feet.
- Q. What is the depth at Scripps Poway Parkway?
A. The depth is approximately 300 feet.
- Q. What is the depth at the Central Shaft?
A. The depth is approximately 100 feet.
- Q. Who is the contractor working on this project?
A. Traylor-Shea is the joint venture contractor for this project.
- Q. Where will the spoils from the project sites be taken?
A. At the West Shaft, the excess material will be exported to the military base at Miramar. The contractor stockpiles the excess material on site and then it is transported off the site in large quantities. Trucks avoid hauling material during the morning commute. All the material from the work at the Central Shaft will be used as backfill on the site, which will raise the site elevation to that of Stonebridge Parkway. A local business owner will use the material from the San Vicente Portal to fill a pond on his property.
- Q. What are the beams and boards that have been put up at the West Shaft?
A. The boards are part of the equipment used to bring the excess material from the tunnel to the surface. This system includes a rail system where excess material from the tunnel is loaded onto train cars and lifted out of the shaft by a crane.
- Q. What will the West Shaft look like after the project is completed?
A. When you are looking at the project site, on the right is the Water Authority's Pressure Control Facility. On the left side there will be a permanent access structure with a fence

around it for maintenance purposes. The Water Authority is working with the Rancho Penasquitos Planning Group and the Mira Mesa Planning Group to get input on the landscaping plans. The Water Authority will also install parking spaces for visitors to the park at the top of the hill. **(Please note there is also a simulated drive-by of the finished pressure control and hydroelectric facility located on CWA's website at <http://www.sdcwa.org/infra/cip-PCHF.phtml>.)**

- Q. Has the contractor discovered more difficult conditions than expected? How is the schedule progressing?
- A. Yes. The rock is harder than expected at several sites. The project is scheduled to be complete in 2009, but that date could change.
- Q. How much material has been used for this project in yardage?
- A. The exact amount of material that has been used is unknown.
- Q. Are public tours available for this project?
- A. Due to dangerous conditions and high security at each project site, the Water Authority does not have a public tour program for this project. However, a San Vicente Pipeline photo tour is available to view on the Water Authority's website www.sdcwa.org.
- C. The Water Authority spends too much money to produce the mailings that are sent out to residents as well as the annual reports. She feels they should cut back on costs for those materials. Also the Water Authority needs to do a better job at checking their databases for duplicate names and addresses more frequently.
- R: For the past five years, the Water Authority's budget for its annual report has remained the same. Whenever possible they try to be cost-conscious. However, the annual report is for the Water Authority's investors, and it needs to resemble a certain design level for the financial community audience. Also the Water Authority reviews its databases for duplicates on a regular basis.

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