

Board of Directors

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El Toro Water District

"A District of Distinction"
Serving the Public - Respecting the Environment

July 23, 2015

Glenda Sanders, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

Orange County Grand Jury 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

Subject:

El Toro Water District Response to Certain Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations – 2014/15 Report "Increasing Water Recycling: A Win-Win for Orange County"

As required by Penal Code 933.05 (a) and (b), El Toro Water District hereby provides the following response to Finding F.6 and Recommendation R.4:

F.6 The El Toro Water District, the City of San Clemente, the Santa Margarita Water District and the Trabuco Canyon Water District process a combined average total of 19.3 million gallons per day and send to the ocean 9.5 million gallons per day. The remaining 9.8 million gallons per day are used for landscape irrigation.

Response

The El Toro Water District (ETWD) concurs with the referenced WW Volume In (3.7 mgd), WW Volume Out Ocean (3.3 mgd) and WW Volume Out Purple Pipe (0.4 mgd) for ETWD. ETWD cannot substantiate the other agencies WW flow data.

The aforementioned concurrence is based on WW flows at the time of the Grand Jury's original WW flow data request. Subsequent to the submittal of that data, ETWD invested approximately \$35 million into a multi-phase Recycled Water Expansion Project that has and will produce the following WW Volume In and Out:

El Toro Water District

	WW In	WW Out Ocean	WW Out Purple
<u>Pipe</u>			
Original Response	3.7 mgd	3.3 mgd	0.4 mgd
Phase I (Complete)	3.7 mgd	2.3 mgd	1.4 mgd
Phase II (Design/CEQA)	3.7 mgd	2.1 mgd	1.6 mgd

At the completion of Phase II, the percentage of ETWD WW Inflow that is recycled for beneficial reuse (purple pipe) will increase from 11% to 43% which will improve local water supply reliability and further reduce OC dependence on imported water.

R.4 The El Toro Water District, the City of San Clemente, the Santa Margarita Water District and the Trabuco Canyon Water District should conduct a study of possible methods of increasing the amount of processed wastewater and implement the most cost effective method to reduce the amount of imported water to Orange County.

Response

The South County Agencies collectively recognize the necessity and importance of maximizing the beneficial reuse of wastewater inflows. To that end, coordination between "all" South County water purveyors has been initiated. The objective is to develop a regional recycled water master plan that interconnects existing and future recycled water systems to optimally increase beneficial reuse, to reduce discharges to the ocean and our dependence on the import water system.

Subsequently, the agencies have worked together to start identifying future wastewater flows, points of interconnection of recycled water systems and seasonal storage opportunities. This regional effort is intended to position South County to take advantage of all current and future Local (Metropolitan WD), State and Federal funding opportunities.

Concurrently with this regional collaboration, ETWD will be financially participating in a Moulton Niguel Water District Recycled Water Master Plan Update that will evaluate their recycled water expansion opportunities inclusive of possible cross jurisdictional recycled water sales/purchases and/or exchange arrangements between the two agencies.

El Toro Water District

Cordially,

El Toro Water District

Scott Goldman President

Cc:

ETWD Board of Directors

Robert Hill, General Manager