

1. INTRODUCTION

1. INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to satisfy the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's (LADWP) annual reporting obligations pursuant to the Agreement between the County of Inyo and the City of Los Angeles and its Department of Water and Power on a Long Term Groundwater Management Plan for Owens Valley and Inyo County (Water Agreement), the 1991 Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Water from the Owens Valley to Supply the Second Aqueduct, and the 1997 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between LADWP, Inyo County, the California Department of Fish and Game, the California State Lands Commission, the Sierra Club, and the Owens Valley Committee.

1.1 Water Agreement

The Water Agreement requires periodic evaluations of enhancement/mitigation projects to be made by the Inyo County/LADWP Technical Group. As required by the Water Agreement, all existing enhancement/mitigation projects will continue unless the Inyo County Board of Supervisors and LADWP agree to modify or discontinue a project. Section III of this report provides an update on LADWP enhancement/mitigation project status.

1.2 Annual Operations Plan Obligations of Agreement

The Inyo/LA Water Agreement provides that "By April 20th of each year, the Department shall prepare and submit to the Inyo County Technical Group a proposed operations plan and pumping program for the twelve (12) month period beginning on April 1st. (In the event of two consecutive dry years when actual and forecasted Owens Valley runoff for the April to September period is below normal and averages less than 75 percent of normal, the Department shall prepare a proposed plan for the six (6) month period beginning on April 1st and October 1st, and submit such plans by April 20th and October 20th.) The proposed plan and pumping program and any subsequent modifications to it shall be consistent with these goals and principles.

1. A proposed plan shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Owens Valley Runoff estimate (annual)
- Projected groundwater production by well field (monthly)
- Projected total aqueduct reservoir storage levels (monthly)
- Projected aqueduct deliveries to Los Angeles (monthly)
- Projected water uses in the Owens Valley (monthly)
- Water balance projections at each monitoring site

2. The County through its Technical Group representatives shall review the Department's proposed plan of operations and provide comments to the Department within ten (10) days of receipt of the plan.
3. The Department shall meet with the County's Technical Group representatives within ten (10) days of the receipt of the County's comments, and attempt to resolve concerns of the County relating to the proposed pumping program.
4. The Department shall determine appropriate revisions to the plan, provide the revised plan to the County within ten (10) days after the meeting, and implement the plan.
5. The April 1st pumping program may be modified by the Department during the period covered by the plan to meet changing conditions. The Department shall notify the County's Technical Group representatives in advance of any planned significant modifications. The County shall have the opportunity to comment on any such modifications.
6. Information and records pertaining to the Department's operations and runoff conditions shall be reported to the County's Technical Group representatives throughout the year.”

1.3 1997 Owens Valley MOU

In accordance with the MOU, LADWP and Inyo County are required to prepare an annual report describing environmental conditions in the Owens Valley and the associated studies, projects, and activities conducted under the Water Agreement and the MOU. The following is intended to provide such an update.

1.4 1991 Owens Valley EIR Monitoring Program

As required by the 1991 EIR, LADWP is submitting the following Annual Report to the Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners. This report contains a description of each mitigation effort, its goals, strategies, and actions; its status (completed activities, ongoing activities); and mitigation plans for the following year. A discussion of the overall effectiveness of each mitigation effort is also provided in Section IV.

Mitigation plans for each of the mitigation measures listed on the following pages are developed by the Technical Group as set forth in Section I.C.2 of the Green Book, the technical appendix to the Water Agreement. The Green Book states: “as part of each mitigation plan, the Technical Group shall develop a reporting and monitoring program. At least once per year, the Technical Group shall report, in writing to the Standing Committee, on the effectiveness of the mitigation plan in achieving its goal.”