



March 24, 2016

Ms. Gail Farber
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 S. Fremont Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91803

Subject: Devil's Gate and Eaton Stormwater Flood Management Project

Dear Ms. Farber:

This letter is intended to express our position on the Devil's Gate Dam (DGD) and Eaton Wash Dam (EWD) Stormwater Flood Management Project with reference to stormwater infiltration that naturally replenishes the groundwater supply of the Monk-Hill Sub-basin.

As some background, Foothill Municipal Water District is an imported water wholesaler, which delivers supplemental water to retail agencies including five that have pumping rights within the Monk Hill subarea of the Raymond Basin. These agencies are La Cañada Irrigation District, Las Flores Water Company, Lincoln Avenue Water Company, Rubio Cañon Land and Water Company, and Valley Water Company. Collectively, these agencies provide water service to retail customers in the City of La Cañada Flintridge and Altadena. Some of these agencies pumping rights are comprised of a fixed amount based on historical production when the basin was adjudicated plus spreading credits from the previous year.

As proposed, a diversion system from DGD to EWD will capture a significant amount of stormwater normally lost through the DGD outflow. The stormwater will be conveyed to the Eaton Wash Spreading Grounds which allows for groundwater recharge into the Pasadena subarea of the Raymond Groundwater Basin. However, once this water is recharged into the Pasadena subarea, the Monk Hill producers named above may no longer produce this water based on the adjudication of the basin. Although this project represents an opportunity for conjunctive stormwater management that benefits both groundwater recharge and flood control, it could have detrimental impacts to the Monk Hill subarea if not managed properly.

Groundwater supplies are critically important to the Monk Hill subarea producers and the customers that they serve. Maximizing production of these supplies is important when considering the many investments into the production capabilities of the subarea, which includes the ability to contain migration of legacy groundwater contaminants, rely on predictable groundwater management and reduce reliance on imported water. The water supply reliability and basic operations of the Monk Hill subarea should not be impacted as a result of this project. The position of the undersigned agencies is that all natural stormwater replenishment into the Monk Hill subarea must be maintained as a first priority before diverting any excess stormwater flows to EWD.

As more information about the project becomes available, please include us on the distribution list. By keeping the Monk Hill stakeholders informed, we can educate our customers about this promising project and its many integrated benefits. We would also like to thank the County for its vision and leadership in creative approaches to stormwater management.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (818) 790-4036 or at nina.jaz@fmwd.com.

Sincerely,



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Foothill Municipal Water District

Doug Caister
General Manager
La Cañada Irrigation District



William Kimberling
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Las Flores Water Company

Robert Hayward
General Manager
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Lisa Yamashita-Lopez
General Manager
Rubio Cañon Land & Water Association

Bob Fan
General Manager
Valley Water Company

cc: FMWD Board of Directors
Keith Lilley
Shari Thomas
Brad Boman
Tony Zampiello