

To: Board of Directors  
From: Norma J. Camacho, Interim CEO

## Chief Executive Officer Bulletin Week of May 05 to May 11, 2017

### Board Executive Limitation Policy EL-7:

*The Board Appointed Officers shall inform and support the Board in its work. Further, a BAO shall 1) inform the Board of relevant trends, anticipated adverse media coverage, or material external and internal changes, particularly changes in the assumptions upon which any Board policy has previously been established and 2) report in a timely manner an actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board.*

Page	IN THIS ISSUE
<a href="#">1</a>	<b>Status of Anderson Dam Pump-Over Evaluation</b>
<a href="#">2</a>	<b><u>Director Keegan</u></b> After storm season is over, staff to review our rule curve in terms of discharge to see if they still serve us well R-17-0003
<a href="#">3</a>	<b><u>Director Kremen</u></b> Staff to provide a copy of all outgoing letters from the State Water Contractors (organization) over the past 12 months. I-17-0007

### **Status of Anderson Dam Pump-Over Evaluation**

Since 2009, the water district has been operating Anderson Dam at a restricted level 45 feet below the dam crest as agreed to with the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

As a result of significant back-to-back storm events in January and February 2017, the reservoir level rose above the restricted level on January 23, 2017 and remained above this level until early May. The Anderson Dam outlet was fully opened on January 9, 2017, discharging a maximum of about 425 cubic feet per second (cfs) through May 1. However, the watershed runoff into Anderson Reservoir during the January and February storms averaged about 3,000 cfs and the reservoir filled, then spilled over a 10-day period in late February, with a peak spillway flow of about 7,000 cfs.

In mid-January, water district staff investigated the option of implementing a pump-over system to increase the reservoir's drawdown capacity and restore the water level to its restriction more quickly. To double the drawdown capacity from 425 cfs to 850 cfs, the pump-over system would require 14 floating submersible pumps, and pressurized pipelines from each pump placed along the upstream face and crest of the dam, to convey the pumped flows to the existing spillway. The water district submitted the pump-over plan to DSOD and FERC in February 2017 for review. DSOD raised concerns that such a system could expose the dam embankment and spillway to serious

erosional/structural damage in the event a pressurized pipe was to break, or a pump was to break loose and be conveyed down the spillway. DSOD requested water district staff to address these concerns in a formal submittal.

At a late April meeting with DSOD, FERC, and the Anderson Dam Project's Board of Consultants (BOC) (an expert panel established by FERC to provide independent review and input on the seismic retrofit work), the water district presented its proposed pump-over plan and requested the BOC's input. Based on the discussions with DSOD, FERC, and the BOC, it was concluded that even with the installation of a pump-over system, maintaining the reservoir's restricted level until construction begins could not be guaranteed every winter, due to the possibility of extreme rainfall events as occurred this year.

DSOD, FERC and the BOC recognize that although public safety risks increase when the restricted level is exceeded, the probability of a major earthquake occurring near the dam during such times is very low. Both DSOD staff and the BOC agree that the current restriction is based on a very conservative analysis and significantly reduces the risk to the dam in the event of a large earthquake.

Based on discussions with and input from the dam regulatory agencies and the Board of Consultants, staff has decided not to pursue the pump-over plan at Anderson Dam. The water district will continue to operate Anderson Dam and Reservoir in a prudent manner. The water district will also continue to communicate with downstream jurisdictions regarding our operations and emergency preparedness for Anderson Dam. Lastly, water district staff will aggressively pursue completion of the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project.

For further information, please contact Katherine Oven at (408) 630-3126.

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**Director Keegan**

**After storm season is over, staff to review our rule curve in terms of discharge to see if they still serve us well**  
**R-17-0003**

With storm season over, water district staff have been managing reservoir releases to return reservoirs to required operational levels. To review rule curves, it is important to understand how rule curves effect reservoir operations during storm events as well as well after the storms. Now that the significant storm season is over and the reservoirs are transitioning to the summer operations mode, water district staff has begun reviewing reservoir rule curves. Staff anticipates providing the board the requested information by the end of June 2017.

For further information, please contact Kurt Arends at (408) 630-2284.

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**Director Kremen**

**Staff to provide a copy of all outgoing letters from the State Water Contractors (organization) over the past 12 months**  
**I-17-0007**

On April 20, 2017, Director Kremen requested that water district staff provide a copy of all outgoing letters from the State Water Contractors over the past 12 months. A binder containing SWC letters has been placed in the Office of the Clerk of the Board. These letters can also be accessed electronically at <https://fta.valleywater.org/fl/Adrs347834>.

For further information, please contact Garth Hall at (408) 630-2750.