

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

Chief Executive Officer Bulletin Week of August 25 – 31, 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.

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Director Kremen

Staff is to provide Director Kremen with information on costs associated with the July 2017 leak on the South Bay Aqueduct, North of Scott Creek Road, and status report on long term repairs.
I-17-0011

The South Bay Aqueduct (SBA) is owned, operated, and maintained, by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to deliver State Water Project supplies from the South Delta to the three SBA Contractors including Zone 7 Water Agency (Livermore), Alameda County Water District (Fremont), and Santa Clara Valley Water District. The SBA is a combination of a pumping plant, reservoirs, open channel, and buried pipe constructed in the early 1960's. The alignment entering Santa Clara County is buried pipe running along the foothills and through the Hayward Fault. This portion of the aqueduct has experienced leaks in the past, due to the joints between pipe sections leaking, and is repaired with a seal over the joint. The SBA has experienced two leaks in the past month, following the facility coming back into operation after an extended eight-month outage. The water district suspects that the eight months of the pipeline being dry may have caused the seals to dry out and compromise their integrity.

When a leak is identified on the SBA, DWR works with the three water agencies to reduce flows in the entire system in order to isolate the portion of pipe requiring repair. The portion of pipe to be repaired is then dewatered to allow crews to enter the pipe, inspect the leak, and make the required repairs before refilling the pipeline and returning to operation. The two most recent leaks were caused by an old seal failing and requiring installation of new seals. DWR tries to complete this type of repair within about 72 hours of shutting down the system. A more severe leak that requires an extensive repair would take longer. DWR's cost to repair the leak that occurred in late July 2017, was approximately \$130,000.

The water district has since met with DWR's Delta Field Division Chief and Operations Superintendent to discuss coordination among the agencies and reliability of the SBA. DWR is in the process of completing a SBA Reliability Report that is looking at the recent SBA enlargement and geology. These reports are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2017 and will be shared with the water district. DWR is also initiating two other studies, one to look at an area of pipe that is out of bounds due to local land movement, and the other to evaluate an area passing through the Hayward fault. The proposed scope for the first study is scheduled to be developed by September 2017, after which an implementation plan and schedule will be developed. DWR staff plans to initiate the planning for the seismic study by the end of the 2017. The water district will continue working with DWR to develop action plans based on the findings of their studies and ensure issues of concern are addressed.

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