



One Water and Adaptation Committee

# Inter-state Transfers and Exchanges MOU

Item 6a

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Item 6a  
Interstate  
Transfers  
and  
Exchanges  
MOU

Subject

Inter-state Transfers and Exchanges MOU

Purpose

Provide information regarding process for developing framework for inter-state transfers and exchanges on the Lower Colorado River

# Off-River Inter-State Storage of Colorado River Water (Intentionally Created Unused Apportionment)

Agreement 66879

Contract No. 04-XX-30-W0430

1  
2  
3

## STORAGE AND INTERSTATE RELEASE AGREEMENT

4 among

5 The United States of America, acting through the Secretary of the Interior; The  
6 Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; the Southern Nevada Water  
7 Authority; and the Colorado River Commission of Nevada (collectively referred to herein  
8 as the "Parties" or individually as "Party").

9

### Recitals

10 A. The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) is authorized by the Boulder Canyon  
11 Project Act (43 U.S.C. § 617d) to contract for the storage and delivery of  
12 Colorado River water. The Secretary's authority over the storage and delivery of  
13 Colorado River water to the Lower Division States is further articulated in the  
14 Decree issued by the United States Supreme Court in *Arizona v. California*,  
15 376 U.S. 340 (1964) (Decree).

Ultimate Water Use Does  
Not Change Location

Temporary Off-River  
Storage Across States

# On-River Storage of Colorado River Water (Intentionally Created Surplus)



Water Use Does Not  
Change Location

On-River Storage/Return  
with State Specific  
Accounts

# Purpose of MOU to Explore Potential Inter-state Transfer and Exchange Frameworks

## Metropolitan Supports Interstate Exchanges:

- Provide Critical Operational Flexibility
- Augmentation of Water Supplies
- Encourage Funding Partnerships

Legal and Policy Frameworks Need Development for Successful Implementation

Current Parties: Metropolitan, SDCWA

Additional Potential Parties:

- Southern Nevada Water Authority
- ADWR, CAWCD, Salt River Project
- Bureau of Reclamation

# MOU Goals

1

Explore the Legal and Policy Frameworks for Lower Basin Inter-state Transfers

2

Identify Shared Interests and Responsibilities

3

Explore Potential for Joint Funding of Projects, including Federal Funds

4

Avoid or Mitigate Adverse Impacts Caused by Transfers

