



Engineering & Operations Committee

# Water System Operations Manager's Report

Item 7a

Monday, September 12, 2022

9:30 a.m.

## Current Operational Conditions

### Continuing Drought Operations

- 2022 SWP Allocation is 5%
- SWP blend targets are 0% at Diemer and Skinner plants; 100% at Weymouth plant during Upper Feeder shutdown
- DVL to Mills drought operation continues to perform well
- Managing storage based on WSDM principles
- Maintaining 8 pump CRA flow
- August 2022 deliveries of 162 TAF were 4 TAF lower than August 2021





# Upper Feeder Shutdown

September 6 – 20, 2022



- SWP blend for Weymouth at 100% began on September 5<sup>th</sup>
- Metropolitan is operating the system to minimize Weymouth SWP deliveries
  - Culver City Feeder shift to Diemer Plant
- Member Agencies taking operational actions
  - Topping off reservoirs before shutdown
  - Increasing shift to local or stored water during shutdown
  - Shifting to Diemer Plant from Weymouth Plant
  - Increasing conservation messaging



# Upper Feeder Shutdown

September 6 – 20, 2022

- Slip joint delivered to field site after testing at La Verne Shops
- Upper Feeder dewatering complete
- Contractor starting repair activities
- Continued coordination with member agencies on operational and conservation actions



September 12, 2022



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# Upper Feeder Shutdown Press Conference

August 30, 2022



- Getting the message out through numerous media outlets on the critical need for the shutdown and increased conservation
- Call to action to eliminate all outdoor watering in the affected areas
- Press event hosted by Burbank Water & Power



# Extreme Heat Event & Wildfires

## 2022 Extreme Heat Event California ISO (CAISO) Severe Operating Conditions



- Extreme West-wide heat event began Wednesday 8/31 and continued through the Labor Day holiday until Friday 9/9
- CAISO peak load during the heat event of **52,061 MW** on Tuesday 9/6 exceeded the previous record demand by **2,000 MW** and the 2020 peak by over **5,000 MW**
- CAISO issued an EEA-3 on Tuesday 9/6 and came within about 500 MW of curtailing firm load (rolling blackouts)
- Multiple wildfires occurred across the state, some threatening transmission or generation
- The Governor declared an emergency similar to the 2020 energy crisis, allowing emergency generators to run without penalty

### Notes:

- *EEA = Energy Emergency Alert*
- *EEA-1 = All available generation is in use*
- *EEA-2 = Load mgmt. procedures in effect*
- *EEA-3 = Firm load shed imminent or in progress*

2022 Extreme Heat Event

## Metropolitan's Response



## Reduced Demand and Increased Generation

- In response to a direct CAISO request, Metropolitan voluntarily reduced pumping load at Gene and Intake during critical load hours (5 pm – 9 pm on 9/5 and 9/6 during heat event)
  - Reducing Gene and Intake by 4 pumps at both plants for four hours reduced CRA pumping demand by 50 MW, or ~20%
  - No impact to 8-pump flow operations on the rest of CRA
- Coordinated with SDCWA to increase Skinner plant deliveries, allowing the Carlsbad desalination plant to ramp down during peak load hours
- Adjusted flows on San Diego Pipeline 5 to allow Red Mountain hydroplant to operate, adding 4 MW of generation
- Increased peaking flows on Rialto Feeder by using Live Oak reservoir, allowing DWR to increase peak generation at Devil Canyon by about 4 MW

## Emergency Response Fairview Fire

As of 9/8, burned ~20,000 acres and is ~5% contained



- # Partnering with Emergency Management Agencies
- Wildfire in Hemet near DVL; **no impact to Metropolitan operations**
  - Metropolitan's Eastern Conveyance & Distribution Incident Command Post activated
  - DVL recreation area used as Riverside County Fire Command Post
  - Firefighting aircraft used DVL as water source
  - Alert sent to all MWD employees of local unhealthy air quality
  - Internal and external communications throughout event



Helicopters pulling water from DVL to fight wildfire



USEPA Proposed Rule  
**PFOA/PFOS  
and  
CERCLA**

Released  
September 6,  
2022

- Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) proposed as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)
- CERCLA's strict liability standard
  - May apply to water treatment residuals
  - Enforcement is retroactive
  - Financial implications to utilities uncertain
- Staff reviewing USEPA proposal
  - Comments due November 7, 2022
  - Working with AMWA, AWWA, WUWC on comments
  - Metropolitan's previous comments sought exemption for water utilities

