

COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY STORAGE OF WATER

POLICY NO.: 400-04

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 27, 1973

BACKGROUND:

The City of San Diego's major supply of water is through the aqueducts, canals, and pumping plants of the Metropolitan Water District and the San Diego County Water Authority. While such facilities have an excellent record of service, it is entirely possible for service to be interrupted by floods, earthquakes, or sabotage. Prior to 1963 the Water Utilities Department operated under an unofficial policy of providing approximately one year's storage as an emergency supply. An evaluation of the hazard and possible interruptions balanced against the costs of emergency storage caused us to reevaluate this requirement.

PURPOSE:

To provide a minimum quantity of stored, untreated water to provide for emergencies such as aqueduct failure or aqueduct pump stations outage.

POLICY:

The Water Utilities Department shall have six-tenths of the annual requirement of the City of San Diego and its contractees as active, available storage at the following reservoirs: Lake Skinner, San Vicente, El Capitan, Lower Otay, Murray, and Miramar. The active, available storage shall include any water in the San Vicente Reservoir stored to the account of the San Diego County Water Authority or the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California but shall not include any water stored at El Capitan Reservoir by the Helix Irrigation District. The active, available storage shall also include 60% of the active, available storage in the Metropolitan Water District Lake Skinner Reservoir. Active, available storage shall be that portion of the water which is above the lowest usable outlet of each reservoir.

HISTORY:

Adopted by Resolution R-176832 08/13/1963

Amended by Resolution R-200189 07/02/1970

Amended by Resolution R-209553 12/27/1973