TODAY’S ACTION

Consider:

a) Authorizing preliminary actions to prepare a project description and perform other engineering and design work to commence environmental review for the Interlake Tunnel Project;

b) Requesting the Monterey County Board of Supervisors authorize proceeding with negotiation and execution of a funding agreement between Monterey County and the Monterey County Water Resources Agency for an amount not to exceed $2.5 million to perform the necessary work to commence environmental review of the Interlake Tunnel Project, said funds to be reimbursed to Monterey County if the Project is approved and financed; and

c) Authorizing the General Manager of the Monterey County Water Resources Agency to enter into the necessary agreements to prepare for and commence environmental review of the Interlake Tunnel Project in an initial amount not to exceed $500,000 provided funding is approved by Monterey County.
Prior BOD/ BOS Action

- None
Financial Impact

- Funding Agreement would advance funds to the Agency from the County for pre-construction tasks on this critical project.

- County, upon Agency receipt of total project financing, will be reimbursed amounts advanced.
Discussion

- Interlake Tunnel Project mentioned in 1991 “Water Capital Facilities Plan”.

- Previous reservoir operations limitations minimized the project’s effectiveness

- SVWP removed majority of limitations
  - Increased storage flexibility

- Project has increased feasibility today vis-a-vis 1991
Discussion (cont.)

- Nacimiento Reservoir fills 3x faster than San Antonio Reservoir

- Project leverages water that would currently spill from Nacimiento

- Opportune time with current reservoir levels

- Project could provide up to an additional 60,000 acre-feet of water annually
San Antonio Dam

Proposed Tunnel Alignment

Nacimiento Dam
Discussion (cont.)

- Interest in this project has increased recently
- Monterey County / State in extreme Drought
- San Antonio level is very low – at 4% of capacity
- Tunneling is performed from low to high point
**Discussion (cont.)**

- **Project Benefit Summary**
  - Capture of an additional 60,000 acre-feet (or so, when available)
  - Additional flood control benefit for Salinas Valley
  - Maintains a higher, long-term reservoir level for recreational purposes at Nacimiento and San Antonio
  - Negligible impacts from tunnel construction and operations
Discussion (cont.)

- Project requires engineering analysis

  - Three Phases
    - Preliminary Engineering, Project Description and Water Rights Analysis
    - Remaining Pre-construction Tasks, including Environmental Review
    - Construction

  - Successful completion will require Program and Construction management services
Discussion (cont.)

- Requesting authorization to move forward with steps to prepare for Environmental Review:
  - Initial draw of $500,000
    - Preliminary engineering/Project Description
    - Water Rights requirement analysis
    - Program Management
  - Future draws will require BOS approval

- Proposed Time line and Budget
  - Approximately 1.5 to 2 years
  - Approximately $25M
## Project Budget (proposed)

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<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unit/Measure</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
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</table>
TODAY’S ACTION

Approve:

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