



### **Study Finds Ocean Quality Monitoring Good; Testing on More Regionwide Scale Urged**

The testing being conducted by the City of San Diego for sources of pollution off the coast is of a high quality, Paul K. Dayton, marine scientist with the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, told the May meeting of the Metro JPA and Commission. Dr. Dayton reported on the comprehensive study of current monitoring practices conducted for the City by a team of scientists from Scripps and other institutions.

Dr. Dayton said that ocean-water quality off San Diego is a regional issue not limited to the area near the Point Loma Ocean Outfall. He cited emissions from Mexico, the Navy, and the South Bay Outfall, and pollutants from inside San Diego Bay and from an offshore dump site known as LA5. The study team suggested wider regional monitoring, including coverage of deep offshore canyons. Much particulate matter drifts into these canyons, which he said aren't currently being monitored. The report also said that ocean water eddies and circulates much differently in the San Diego Region than it does off Orange County and Los Angeles and that those areas do not offer useful monitoring models for San Diego.

An ad hoc committee was formed to look into the possibility of a regional body taking over the monitoring. Frank Tierney of Coronado, Henry Abarbanel of Del Mar, and Mayda Winter of Imperial Beach comprise the committee.

### **Strategic Planning Workshop Sets Priorities, New Ad Hoc Committee Lineup**

Judy Adams of Adams & Adams Consulting and Training, who facilitated the Metro JPA's Strategic Planning Workshop on April 8, gave a report to Commissioners at the May meeting. Ad Hoc Committees formed or retained were: Community Relations, Relationship Liaison, Regional Wastewater Authority Study, Financial, and an as yet-unnamed committee to address the status of the EPA secondary-treatment waiver.

Priorities for the next 12 months include:

- Complete marketing plan and launch web site
- Expand interaction with NR&C and the PUAC
- Achieve 100 percent participating agency membership in the JPA
- Participate in EPA waiver renewal or substitution process
- Achieve accurate meter flow data
- Initiate study of a regional wastewater authority
- Identify and expand involvement in external financial issues
- Complete cost allocation study

### **June 2 Meeting to Include Orange County Presentation**

Virginia Grebbien, General Manager of the Orange County Water District, will speak at the next meeting of the Metro JPA and Commission on June 2. She will describe the district's public education program, which has been successful in winning support for the use of recycled water.

The meeting will be held at 12 noon in the Metropolitan Operations Center (MOC II) auditorium at 9192 Topaz Way, Kearny Mesa. Lunch will be provided for Commissioners and staff.

### **County's Doug Isbell Retires; Scott Huth of Coronado Takes Over as Chair of Metro TAC**

Doug Isbell, longtime Deputy Director of the County of San Diego's Department of Public Works, announced that he will retire at the end of this month. Isbell is a longtime alternate Metro Commissioner and Chair of Metro TAC, the Metro JPA's technical oversight committee. At the May 5 Commission meeting, JPA Chair Henry Abarbanel saluted Isbell and thanked him for his many years of service in the public works field.

Scott Huth, the City of Coronado's Director of Public Services, has been elected to replace Isbell as Metro TAC Chairman. La Mesa Director of Public Works Greg Humora was elected Vice Chair.

### **Metro TAC to Meet on May 18**

Metro TAC's next meeting will be Wednesday, May 18 at 11 a.m. at MOC II.

### **Metro Commissioners**

Councilmember Henry Abarbanel, Del Mar - Chair  
 Councilmember Mayda Winter, Imperial Beach - Vice Chair  
 Mayor Steven Padilla, Chula Vista \*  
 Councilmember Frank Tierney, Coronado  
 Mayor Mark Lewis, El Cajon  
 Councilmember Ernest Ewin, La Mesa  
 Councilmember Jerry Jones, Lemon Grove Sanitation District  
 Councilmember Luis Natividad, National City  
 Councilmember Merrilee Boyack, Poway  
 Scott Tulloch, Director, MWWD, City of San Diego  
 Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego  
 Mark Robak, Otay Water District  
 Augie Scalzitti, Padre Dam Municipal Water District  
 \* Member of Metro Commission but not Metro JPA

### **Metro JPA News Brief**

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