HHIA - Utility Report for Meeting on 2017.01.23

Main San Gabriel Key Water Well Level updates:

Historic High: **295.30** ft. on 1983.07.20 (Since entry of judgment in 1973)
Historic Low: 172.20 ft. (As of 2016.10.07)
Current: 180.4 ft. (As of 2017.01.13; only 61.09% vs High).
Related link: http://www.watermaster.org/

Recent storms and rainfalls in California have caused some flooding and landslide in some area, but have also eased much need multi-year drought. Some area have reached to average level in northern California, while not in Southern California due to different rain patterns. However, mostly are quite encouraging. Here are some reports online:

Rowland Water District
Notice of Public Hearing
Date: February 14, 2017 (Tuesday)
Time: 6 pm
Location: Rowland Water District Board Room
3021 Fullerton Rd., Rowland Hts., CA 91748
You may have received a mail from **Rowland Water District** recently regarding the hearing for the proposed 5-year schedule of water rate hike. Please join it to voice your concern.
http://www.rowlandwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/RWD_218_v3.2.pdf

Before & After Photos: California reservoirs fill back up after recent storms
By **MICHAEL MALONE** | mmalone@bayareanewsgroup.com |
PUBLISHED: January 14, 2017 at 8:00 am | UPDATED: January 14, 2017 at 4:42 pm

The recent spate of winter rains has dramatically raised the water levels of many California reservoirs.

In Santa Clara County, Lexington Reservoir is now at 105 percent of its nearly 21,000-acre-feet capacity, according to the Santa Clara Valley Water District's historical reservoir gauge information.

The California Data Exchange lists San Luis Reservoir as having risen 40 feet, yet the immense water basin is only 70 percent full.

Camanche Lake Reservoir, while located in San Joaquin County, is operated by the East Bay Municipal Utility District, and is now 78 percent full after rising 51 feet.

Related link:
http://www.mercurynews.com/2017/01/14/reservoirs-fill-back-up-after-recent-storms/
This link shows photos contrasting three reservoirs before and after recent rainfall: San Luis Reservoir near Los Banos, Lexington Reservoir near Los Gatos, and Camanche Reservoir in Wallace.

Call it the Southern California drought…
By Joseph Serna, Matt Stevens
Jan. 12, 2017

A week of powerful storms has significantly eased the state's water shortage, pulling nearly all of Northern California out of drought conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

The report underscores what experts have been saying for several months. As a series of storms have hit Northern California this winter, the drought picture there is improving, but water supply remains a concern in Southern California and the Central Valley.

More than 40% of the state is no longer in a drought, according to the data released Thursday. Perhaps most striking, a giant swath of the state was declared to have no signs of abnormal dryness at all. The percentage of the state that fell into that category nearly doubled from 18% last week to almost 35% after the storm.

Still, the drought monitor's map and its array of colors — from white to dark red — provide a stark illustration of the disparity between hydrologic conditions in the north and south.

Storms drenched the San Francisco Bay Area and created blizzard conditions in parts of the Sierra Nevada over the last week. They dramatically boosted the Sierra snowpack — a key source of water for California — to 161% of normal and helped rectify the state's water shortage.

But the weather systems also carved a path of destruction. The storms likely caused at least four deaths.

Since Oct. 1, total precipitation in the Sierra Nevada has been soaring at rates similar to the wettest winters in the modern record: 1982-83 in the northern and central Sierra and 1968-69 in the southern Sierra.

Lake Shasta, the state's largest reservoir and a major source of water for San Joaquin Valley agriculture, is 82% full and releasing water to create more storage room. Oroville, which supplies the State Water Project, is 77% full and also making releases.

At present, conditions are considered normal in almost all of the state north of the Bay Area, according to the new federal drought report. (Authors use measurements of climatic, hydrologic and soil conditions and consider reported impacts and observations to create the map.)

Thursday's assessment was less rosy for Southern California.

Los Angeles and Orange counties, along with much of Central California, are locked in what officials classify as "extreme drought" — or worse.

Chunks of Ventura and Santa Barbara counties remain in "exceptional drought."

Lake Cachuma, a barometer of Santa Barbara's severe water shortage, has received relatively meager rainfall since the start of the month, and as of Thursday, it was filled to only about 11% of its historical average.

Officials said it held only a bit more than 8% of its capacity.

"The drought has not let up on the Central Coast," said David Matson, assistant general manager of the Goleta Water District.

Matson said Santa Barbara County has gotten about 130% of its normal rainfall, which has increased the moisture in the soil. The rains in the north will also feed the State Water Project, which the district now relies on for about half of its supply.

Still, he noted that Wednesday marked the first day this winter that Lake Cachuma received inflow — and even then, it was a meager 180 acre-feet.

“We’re optimistic, given that we’ve had more rain than normal and the ground is getting wet,” Matson said. “But until we see appreciable inflow into Lake Cachuma, the drought is going to continue as it has the last several years.”

Part of the problem is that the lake is wedged into a corner of a valley shielded by the Santa Ynez Mountains, said Scott Sukup of the National Weather Service’s Oxnard station.

Storms typically squeeze out the bulk of their moisture in the hills before crossing over and raining onto the lake, Sukup said.

The Santa Barbara County area would have been downgraded from “exceptional” drought to the less severe “extreme” category had the rain runoff been greater, said David Miskus, who authored Thursday’s report.

Drought also continues to plague much of Central California.

For example, New Melones Lake, east of the San Joaquin Valley, has collected more than 180,000 additional acre-feet of water since Jan.1, but it is filled to only about 60% of its average.

“Just because it’s raining doesn’t mean the drought is solved,” said Jenny Rempel, spokeswoman for the Community Water Center, which helps provide water for southern San Joaquin Valley residents in need. “In the Central Valley where we work, communities are still relying on bottled water for drinking and cooking.”

Skeptics need look no further than East Porterville, where Rempel said residents are still feeling the effects of a severe water shortage.

“Tulare County is still absolutely the epicenter of the drought,” she said. “Even if its pouring rain in the valley, that doesn’t mean it’s getting to the communities who need it most.”

Still, the drought monitor showed that this week’s storms did aid many parts of Central and Southern California. And Miskus, the author of the report, said the drought outlook should continue to improve because of this week’s rains and additional storms forecast for the next two weeks.

Only about 2% of the state remains in “exceptional drought,” compared with 18% last week, the drought monitor reported. A much smaller sliver of Los Angeles County, for example, is classified as such.

Deven Upadhyay, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California’s water resource manager, echoed many state water officials when he told The Times that it was too early to say the drought is over.

"Later this year, we may be able to say that we've really turned the tide," he said earlier this week. "But we're not there yet."

Richard Harasick, senior assistant general manager of water for DWP, said the city does not plan to relax its outdoor watering restrictions.

"We are still encouraging water conservation as a way of life," he said.
Related link:
http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-drought-monitor-20170112-story.html

California Data Exchange Center – Reservoirs

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/resapp/getResGraphsMain.action
There is a chart indicating the water level on each major reservoir, unfortunately, L.A. county still remains in insufficient level.

The New Year Begins with Improved Drought Conditions, but California's Snowpack Still Well Below Average

Happy New Year! Winter storms have improved drought conditions in many parts of the state, especially in the North Coast. Yet, several warm storms in December brought more rain than snow, and the snowpack remains well below average. The first manual snow survey on January 3 at Phillips Station near Lake Tahoe found a snow-water equivalence of six inches, or about 53% of the early-January average of 11.3 inches. The snow-water equivalence is the theoretical depth of water that would result if the snowpack melted instantaneously.
Statewide, the electronic reading shows that the snowpack is about 70% of average for this time of year. Snowpack conditions will likely improve in the coming months, as January and February are among California's wettest months. Snow measurements between January and April 2017 will guide water management decisions for the rest of the year.
Related link:
http://www.californiadrought.org/drought/current-conditions/

Statewide Water Savings Nearly Reach 19 Percent in November; Most of State Still Experiencing Drought Conditions

By George Kostyrko Jan. 4, 2017
george.kostyrko@waterboards.ca.gov

SACRAMENTO — The State Water Resources Control Board today announced that urban Californians' monthly water conservation was 18.8 percent in November, a decrease from 19.6 percent in October and below the 20.2 percent savings in November 2015, when state-mandated conservation targets were in place. The State Water Board stressed the need for continued conservation given that Central and Southern California remain in drought conditions and the statewide snowpack is below average despite recent storms. The cumulative statewide savings from June 2015 through November 2016 remains at 22.6 percent, compared with the same months in 2013. Since June 2015, 2.35 million acre-feet of water has been saved — enough water to supply more than 11 million people, or more than one-quarter the state's population, for a year. Although October through December rains in Northern California provided an encouraging start to the 2016-2017 water year (Oct. 1, 2016 – Sept. 30, 2017),

much of the state has not recovered from the severe drought conditions that have persisted for the past four years. Moreover, measurements by the Department of Water Resources indicate that the statewide snowpack is about 70 percent of average for early January. The State Water Board will continue to monitor conservation levels and water supply conditions, and will present a staff proposal to extend emergency conservation regulations for public discussion on Jan. 18. The proposal may include a return to state-mandated conservation targets if dry conditions return or if conservation levels slip significantly. The Board won't be acting on the staff proposals on Jan. 18; staff will be bringing a proposal to the Board for consideration in February after taking into account comments from the Jan. 18 public workshop.

"Californians are continuing to conserve, which is the way it should be, given that we can't know what the future will bring but we know that we can't take water for granted anymore," said State Water Board Chair Felicia Marcus. "It was especially good to see another month of impressive increases in conservation in northern California. "With climate change already creating water supply challenges that will only get worse and State population projected to exceed 40 million by 2020, we all need to become more efficient with our limited water supplies year in and year out. Increased water efficiency coupled with new storage, recycling, stormwater capture and other measures is going to make us more resilient over the long term," said Marcus

Conservation Data • Statewide water savings for November 2016 was 18.8 percent (86,793 acre feet or 28.3 billion gallons), a decrease from October 2016's 19.6 percent savings, and a decrease from November 2015's 20.2 percent statewide savings (30.9 billion gallons). November 2016 water savings are nine percent lower than November 2015 savings. • Cumulative statewide percent reduction for June 2015 – November 2016 (18months) is 22.6 percent, which equates to 2,347,125 acre-feet (764.8 billion gallons). • Statewide average residential gallons per capita per day (R-GPCD) for November 2016 was 76.6 gallons, below the 89.8 R-GPCD in October 2016 and slightly above 75.6 RGPCD reported for November 2015. Link to Fact sheet here. All November data can be found on this page. Conservation levels have remained significant for many communities that had certified that they did not need state-imposed mandates to keep conserving. Under the board's revised emergency water conservation regulations, urban water agencies have the ability to identify their own conservation standards based on a "stress test" of supply reliability. Water suppliers had to document that they have sufficient supplies to withstand three years of continuous drought or take additional measures that include state-imposed mandatory conservation standards. The regulation is in effect through February 2017. Those stress test results are here. In November 2016, 44 percent of suppliers achieved water savings above 20 percent. These 174 suppliers serve more than 13 million people and include the East Bay Municipal Utilities District, San Jose Water Company, Sacramento, Alameda County Water District, Coachella Valley Water District, Modesto, Los Angeles County Public Works Waterworks District 40

(Antelope Valley), California-American Water Company Sacramento District, and Contra Costa Water District, among others. Additionally, many water suppliers showed November 2016 conservation levels that were even higher than November 2015 levels, including Lemoore, Patterson, Whittier, Goleta Water District, and Sonoma. In looking at the data, percentage savings alone do not tell a complete story of conservation achievement. Suppliers with already low R-GPCD use are taking more significant efforts to save water with small percentage reductions. That is compared to big users of water for whom it easier to save water, particularly on outdoor ornamental landscapes. Despite less than 10 percent water savings in November 2016, examples of communities with low R-GPCD and already significant conservation and efficiency achievements include San Diego, Irvine Ranch Water District, Sweetwater Authority, Park Water Company, California-American Water Company San Diego District, Compton, Golden State Water Company (Florence Graham), Paramount, Estero Municipal Improvement District, and Eureka. However, not all suppliers are sustaining significant

conservation. State Water Board staff continues to look at why conservation levels have dropped in such communities, and is particularly concerned about suppliers with extremely high levels of per-capita water use. Suppliers with high R-GPCD levels and sharp reductions in conservation include: Santa Fe Irrigation District, Los Angeles County Public Works Waterworks District 29 (Malibu), Vaughn Water Company, and Valley Water Company. Some communities continue to maintain low overall per capita residential water use, which may not be reflected in percentage change, but illustrates a long-term commitment to efficient water use. Status of Permanent Water Use Efficiency Targets The current conservation regulation, adopted in May 2016, is part of a wider effort to build on short-term, emergency water restrictions, establish permanent conservation measures and eliminate the worst water-wasting practices. These actions will help achieve a top priority of the state's Water Action Plan - to improve long-term drought preparedness and "Make Conservation a California Way of Life." In May, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. issued an executive order calling for new permanent water use efficiency targets for each urban water supplier that reflect California's diverse climate, landscape, and demographic conditions. The local "stress test" data and three-year resiliency plans collected by the State Water Board will serve as a bridge to these actions and inform the development of new water use efficiency targets.

On Nov. 30, the State Water Board along with four other state agencies released a draft framework for implementing the executive order. The new plan's fundamental premise is that efficient water use helps all of California better prepare for longer and more severe droughts caused by climate change. The framework develops long-term water conservation measures that will ensure all communities have sufficient water supplies. This will involve activities such as permanently prohibiting wasteful practices like hosing off sidewalks and driveways and ensuring farmers plan and prepare for severe drought. A final report with recommendations will be released in early 2017. Background California has been dealing with the effects of an unprecedented drought. To learn about all the actions the state has taken to manage our water system and cope with the impacts of the drought, visit Drought.CA.Gov. Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at SaveOurWater.com. While saving water, it is important to properly water trees. Find out how at www.saveourwater.com/trees. In addition to many effective local programs, statefunded turf removal and toilet replacement rebates are also available. Information and rebate applications can be found at: www.saveourwaterrebates.com/.

SoCalGas Lifts "SoCalGas Advisory"

Dec 20, 2016

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) today announced that, effective immediately, it has lifted the "SoCalGas Advisory" to all customers and the system-wide curtailment watch issued to its noncore customers, including electric generation plants. The Advisory and curtailment watch were issued December 18 in response to cold weather conditions in the Southwestern United States and SoCalGas' service territory.

"On behalf of SoCalGas, I'd like to thank all of our customers who took action to conserve natural gas during this Advisory. Working with our customers and suppliers, we were able to manage our system to deliver reliable heating and electricity to our region during this recent cold snap," said Lisa Alexander, vice president for customer solutions and communications. "As we lift the Advisory, I want to remind our customers that it is very early in the winter season, and with the limited availability of Aliso Canyon, we may face more of these types of challenges this winter. Conservation should be part of everyone's daily routine, and I encourage customers to visit socalgas.com to learn more about our conservation tips, rebate programs, and other ways to manage bills this winter."

The California Public Utilities Commission ordered the creation of the "SoCalGas Advisory" program to help address state agencies' concerns about regional energy reliability this winter due to the moratorium on injection operations at Aliso Canyon.

More information about the program is available at socalgas.com/advisory.
Related link:
http://sempra.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=19080&item=137235

Southern California Edison

Feb. 1 is Deadline to Apply for Edison International's $1.2 Million Scholarship Program
January 10, 2017

High school seniors driven to make a difference through science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) still have time to apply for Edison International's $1.2 million Edison Scholars Program.

Each year, Edison International, the parent company of Southern California Edison, helps students dream big and achieve their academic goals by awarding $40,000 scholarships, paid over four years, to 30 high school students planning to major in STEM fields at four-year colleges and universities. Scholarship applications are being accepted through Feb. 1.

Eligible students must live in or attend a public or private high school in SCE's service territory or attend an eligible high school surrounding SCE's San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. Visit scholarsapply.org/edisonscholars for a list of designated high schools.

Applicants must plan to be a full-time undergraduate student majoring in one of the following STEM fields: mathematics, engineering, computer and information services, management information systems, natural resources and conservation and physical sciences.

"Edison International funds educational programs and scholarships because one of our priorities is helping to nurture scholars of tomorrow," said Tami Bui, SCE's principal manager of Corporate Philanthropy. "The Edison Scholars Program provides financial support that lets students attend colleges and universities they thought were out of reach, and allows them to focus on their studies rather than worry about how they're going to pay for school."

Since 2006, Edison International has financially supported 550 students' higher education by giving out nearly $6.5 million in scholarships.

Applicants must be a high school senior, have at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA and demonstrate financial need. To apply and get additional eligibility information, students are encouraged to visit: scholarsapply.org/edisonscholars. Students from underserved communities and ethnic minorities are encouraged to apply.

Scholarship recipients will be announced in April. Recipients may also be eligible for summer internships at SCE after completing their second year of college.

Edison International's support of charitable causes, such as the Edison Scholars Program, is funded entirely by Edison International shareholders. SCE customers' utility bill payments do not fund company donations, and dependents of Edison International and SCE employees are not eligible for the Edison Scholars Program.

Related link:
http://newsroom.edison.com/releases/feb-1-is-deadline-to-apply-for-edison-internationals-1-2-million-scholarship-program

Southern California Edison

Southern California Edison Awards San Onofre Nuclear Plant Decommissioning Contract to AECOM, EnergySolutions Joint Venture

December 20, 2016

Media Contact: Maureen Brown, (626) 302-2255
Investor Relations Contact: Scott Cunningham, (626) 302-2540

ROSEMEAD, Calif., Dec. 20. 2016 — Southern California Edison today announced, after a 10-month competitive bid process, it has selected a joint venture of AECOM and Energy*Solutions* as the Decommissioning General Contractor for the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station (SONGS). It is one of the country's largest commercial nuclear plant decommissioning projects.

"We are pleased to announce the selection of the AECOM/Energy*Solutions* team, a global joint venture with extensive commercial and government decommissioning experience around the world, as the prime contractor to safely and efficiently dismantle the San Onofre nuclear plant," said Ron Nichols, SCE president. The joint venture will be known as SONGS Decommissioning Solutions.

"SCE will maintain strict oversight of the contractor and will continue to engage with the community and all stakeholders during decommissioning," Nichols said. He noted that the major dismantlement work will not begin before 2018 when state regulators are expected to complete their environmental review, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act.

The project is expected to create about 600 jobs during the 10-year dismantlement phase, including workers from local companies.

AECOM, a fully integrated global infrastructure firm, was named one of Fortune magazine's "World's Most Admired Companies" in 2016. AECOM designs, builds, finances and operates assets in more than 150 countries. Energy*Solutions* specializes in nuclear plant decommissioning and waste management, and is currently in the demolition phase of decommissioning both the Zion and Dairyland nuclear power stations.

The $4.4 billion nuclear plant decommissioning is financed through existing trust funds, including SCE's share of the project as majority owner. The total cost includes the dismantlement work awarded to SONGS Decommissioning Solutions, continued on-site storage of San Onofre's used nuclear fuel until the federal government provides a required repository and restoration activities.

SCE shares responsibility for decommissioning with San Onofre co-owners San Diego Gas & Electric and the city of Riverside, and former co-owner, the city of Anaheim. When operational, San Onofre Units 2 and 3 generated 2,200 megawatts of electricity.

SCE announced in June 2013 that it would retire San Onofre Units 2 and 3, and had begun the preparations to decommission the facility. SCE has established core principles of safety, stewardship and engagement to guide decommissioning. For more information, visit songscommunity.com.
http://newsroom.edison.com/releases/southern-california-edison-awards-san-onofre-nuclear-plant-decommissioning-contract-to-aecom-energysolutions-joint-venture

by ***Ted Chang***
HHIA Board Member, Utility