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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
ORANGE COUNTY'S GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

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May 1, 2020

Mr. Robert Hunter
General Manager
Municipal Water District of Orange County
18700 Ward Street
Fountain Valley CA 92708

SUBJECT: Planning and Operations (P&O) Committee Meeting Agenda Item No. 1

Dear Mr. Hunter:

The Orange County Water District (OCWD) verbally expressed its concern regarding this item at the March 19, 2020 P&O Committee Meeting commenting that a proposed hydraulic model appeared to benefit primarily the South County agencies and that it should be considered a Choice Item and those concerns still remain.

We also have the following additional concerns:

1. The staff report indicates that the main purpose of the model's use is for MWDOC to maintain and utilize the model for MWDOC-wide benefits. This is a very open-ended and ill-defined statement that could lead to significant consultant costs in the future.
2. One of the main arguments in support of the model is the water quality element and yet this is not included in the price because "these are currently not needed".
3. There is no discussion of what the annual maintenance and upgrade costs would be for the model.
4. There is mention that MWDOC staff will be trained in the use of the model. Does this mean that consultants would not be used to run the model or will MWDOC will have to increase its staffing to run the model?
5. Another concern is if there are not any projects that would use the model, it would mean that \$300,000 to \$400,000 would be wasted.

It is OCWD's position that if the Committee decides not to have this as a Choice item that the item be deferred to a later date so that further discussion can take place. We see absolutely no urgency whatsoever in the Committee making a decision to move forward with this item at this time.

Page 2
Mr. Robert Hunter
May 1, 2020

I do not expect an answer from you, but request you forward this to your Board.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Markus, P.E.
General Manager

Bcc: OCWD Board of Directors
Cc: OCWD Groundwater Producers