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To: Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Availability/Notice of Intent to Adopt
An Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the
Santa Ynez Reservoir Water Quality Improvement Project

The City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is proposing to install a floating cover over the existing Santa Ynez Reservoir, located at 1351 Palisades Drive in the Pacific Palisades community of the City of Los Angeles. The proposed project is being undertaken to comply with new United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) standards governing water disinfection byproducts in drinking water. The proposed floating cover would allow LADWP to satisfy the USEPA standards (by applying substantially less chemical disinfectants to the Santa Ynez Reservoir) while maintaining a comparable level of water quality. As Lead Agency, the LADWP has prepared an Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), which evaluates the potential environmental effects of the proposed project.

Project Description: The proposed project would consist of the installation of a synthetic (e.g., polypropylene or hypalon) floating cover over the existing Santa Ynez Reservoir and construction of appurtenant structures (e.g., inlet/outlet structure, drain/pump to remove water from the surface of the cover). The proposed project would improve the quality, protection, and security of the water supply for the Pacific Palisades and Brentwood areas, while maintaining the level of reliability of the water supply that is provided by the current reservoir storage for emergencies (e.g., fire fighting).

Project Location: The proposed project would be located within the existing boundary of the Santa Ynez Reservoir located at 1351 Palisades Drive, adjacent to the Pacific Highlands development within the Topanga State Park.

Public Review Period: The IS/MND is being made available for public review for a period of 30 days beginning October 30, 2003 and concluding December 1, 2003. The document may be viewed at the following website address: <http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp004156.jsp>. Copies are also available for review at the Palisades Branch Library (861 Alma Real Drive), Council District 11 West Los Angeles Field Office (1645 West Corinth Avenue, Room 201), and The Summit Club (1501 Chastain Parkway). **Comments on the IS/MND must be received in writing no later than 5:00 p.m., December 1, 2003** and sent to: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Environmental Affairs, Attn: Tania Bonfiglio, 111 N. Hope Street, Room 1044, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Comments may also be faxed to (213) 367-3582.

All comments received in relation to issues discussed in the IS/MND will be included in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration that would be forwarded to the Board of Water and Power Commissioners for final consideration.

If you have any questions regarding the IS/MND, please contact Ms. Tania Bonfiglio at (213) 367-3027.

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