



District News

For further information, please contact:

Name: Matthew Litchfield

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Title: General Manager

Telephone: (909) 621-5568 (Day)

Board advances plan to analyze impacts of proposed water project *Geophysics and hydrology assessments for the Bonanza Spring Study begin in March.*

CLAREMONT, CA (February 24, 2020) – A plan for a year-long field study to investigate potential environmental effects from a proposed water project was approved today by the Three Valleys Municipal Water District (TVMWD) Board of Directors.

In a special meeting, the Board voted 4-1 to proceed with the Bonanza Spring Study, which will determine whether the Mojave Desert spring is connected to the Cadiz Water Project 11 miles away. TVMWD is a potential customer of the project, which is pending state review.

The study is being led by consulting hydrologist Anthony Brown of Aquilogic, Inc. in Costa Mesa. Brown stressed that the study will be open and transparent, and he urged anyone with an interest to participate in the process. “We will follow rigorous scientific principles,” he said. “The study will go where the science takes us.”

The public can access the plan and background materials online at www.bonanzaspringstudy.org

The investigation was commissioned by the Board in June 2019 to address public concerns about whether pumping at the project would impact Bonanza Spring. At a workshop in October, scientists, water industry officials and regional stakeholders provided input on the study plan.

In addition to Brown, the study team includes a geophysicist, geochemist and ecologist. Their work will be peer reviewed by nationally recognized subject matter experts.

Science team member Paul Bauman, a geophysicist from Advisian, told the Board he will use ground-penetrating radar, seismic refraction, drone imaging and other techniques to map faults, subsurface rocks and water levels around the spring. The hydrology portion will monitor precipitation, stream flow and water levels in the spring.

Field work will be conducted from March to December, and Brown will report to the Board quarterly. A final report and Board presentation are scheduled for February 2021, followed by a workshop next March.

Director Carlos Goytia voted against continuing the study, Director Jody Roberto abstained, and Director Denise Jackman was absent.

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In 1950, Pomona Valley Municipal Water District (PVMWD) was formed under State law for the purpose of annexing to the Metropolitan Water District (MWD), thereby entitling the area to receive water imported to the region. The District changed its name to Three Valleys Municipal Water District in 1981.

TVMWD, a water resources management agency is governed by an elected Board of seven officials and covers approximately 133 square miles. The present population is about 525,000. Since its formation the Three Valleys Municipal Water District has installed some 37,000 feet of pipeline and delivered more than 160 billion gallons of water.