



The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

# NEWS RELEASE

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## LARGE IMPORTED WATER LINE SERVING ORANGE COUNTY TO BE TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE, INSPECTED DURING 11-DAY SHUTDOWN *Upgrades to major regional imported water line to begin next Monday, Jan. 13*

As part of a continuous effort to upgrade and maintain Southern California's vast imported water delivery system, a large-diameter regional pipeline serving Orange County communities from Yorba Linda to San Clemente will be taken out of service for 11 days, beginning next Monday, Jan. 13.

Officials from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California joined with the Municipal Water District of Orange County, the county's regional imported water provider, in forecasting no water service interruptions for retail customers while a portion of Metropolitan's 26-mile Allen-McColloch Pipeline is shut down and inspected. The routine maintenance is part of regional and local water providers' ongoing investments in Southern California's water transmission and delivery systems.

Consumers and businesses are asked to check with their retail water provider for potential impacts. A map of Orange County's retail water providers, with links to each water utility's website, is available at <http://www.mwdoc.com/board/service-area>.

Debra C. Man, Metropolitan's chief operating officer and assistant general manager, said the district routinely schedules shutdowns of its facilities in the winter and early spring, when temperatures usually are cooler and water demands are lower, to conduct inspections and perform maintenance and upgrades with the least impact on consumers.

"One of the biggest challenges to ensuring reliable deliveries is the need to repair and upgrade aging facilities," Man said, noting that more than 40 percent of the district's water system is over 60 years old.

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“Our water supply system is aging, and it will require increased investments in repair and replacement in order to keep the system operating reliably,” MWDOC Board President Joan C. Finnegan said. “In collaboration with Metropolitan, MWDOC and the Family of Orange County Water Agencies are committed to making these necessary investments in our water infrastructure to ensure a reliable supply for current and future generations.”

Metropolitan’s 26-mile Allen-McColloch Pipeline extends from the district’s Robert B. Diemer Water Treatment Plant in Yorba Linda to El Toro Reservoir in Lake Forest, typically delivering about 100 million gallons of water a day for Orange County residents. The line is the primary source of supplemental, imported water to south county communities served by MWDOC, which relies on Metropolitan supplies for about 50 percent of its water supplies.

During the outage, Metropolitan will shut down the pipeline early Jan. 13 and drain an 11-mile portion of the high-pressure line for inspection. The shutdown is scheduled until Jan. 23.

“Throughout the shutdown, residents and businesses are asked to use water as efficiently as possible,” Finnegan said.

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*The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is a cooperative of 26 cities and water agencies serving nearly 19 million people in six counties. The district imports water from the Colorado River and Northern California to supplement local supplies, and helps its members to develop increased water conservation, recycling, storage and other resource-management programs.*