



PRESS RELEASE

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Agency Receives Emergency Authorization to Repair Inflatable Dam

Agency Prepares Schedule of Repair Work

Santa Rosa, CA – The Sonoma County Water Agency (Agency) Board of Directors (also the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors) today approved (Supervisors Kerns and Brown were absent) a resolution declaring an emergency need to repair the Agency's inflatable dam. The resolution provides the Agency general manager/chief engineer authority to enter into contracts and take actions as necessary to repair the dam.

Agency staff is working with the dam manufacturer, Bridgestone Corporation, to determine the most appropriate level of repair. A schedule of repair work is planned to be finished later this week.

On June 21, Bridgestone inspected the condition of the dam and found it to be stable. Bridgestone also recommended a sequence of activities for inspection and repair work. The total cost of the repair work is not yet known but is estimated to be under \$500,000. Included in the cost of the repair work is the lease and staging of equipment necessary to repair the dam. Funds are available within the Agency's Water Transmission Operations and Maintenance Fund to pay for the repair work.

The resolution also directs the Agency to file a Notice of Exemption for emergency repair of the inflatable dam. The emergency repair project is exempt from the California Environment Quality Act because the repair project is an emergency and necessary to maintain service essential to public health and safety.

The Agency continues to encourage its water retail providers to continue implementation of water conservation measures and be prepared to operate local water supply sources as it investigates and repairs damage to its inflatable dam. The Agency also notified several regulatory agencies about the leak.

For more information about the inflatable dam, visit www.sonomacountywater.org.

Sonoma County Water Agency provides water supply, flood protection and sanitation services for Sonoma and Marin counties. Visit us on the Web at www.sonomacountywater.org.