



# San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

3452 East Foothill Blvd., Suite 810, Pasadena, California 91107-3142 Phone: (626) 564-9702 FAX: (626) 564-1116 E-Mail [SGV@sgvSGVCOG.org](mailto:SGV@sgvSGVCOG.org)

DATE: February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010

TO: Governing Board Delegates and Alternates

FROM: Nicholas T. Conway, Executive Director

RE: HR 4349 (Napolitano): Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2009

## **Recommended Action**

Adopt a position of support for HR 4349.

## **Background**

Since its construction, hydroelectric power generated by the Hoover Dam has been allocated by an Act of Congress. Hoover power was first allocated by Congress in the Boulder Canyon Project Act of 1928. In 1984, Congress again allocated Hoover power through contracts with state, municipal and utility contractors. That contract is set to expire in 2017. The Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2009 extends the long-term contract for the delivery of power generated at the Hoover Dam to localities in Arizona, California, and Nevada. This includes numerous Southern California customers such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the City of Pasadena, the City of Azusa, and Southern California Edison. The proposed bill allows the Hoover Dam to continue to provide power through the year 2067.

The Hoover Power contract renewal allows for long-term, clean energy planning, thus removing uncertainty and reducing costs to local agencies. It also makes reliable electricity available to local municipalities at wholesale rates that are much more affordable than purchasing electricity on the private market. The power supply is primarily used for water conveyance and treatment as well as for some municipal operations.

The Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District, Three Valleys Municipal Water District, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors have submitted letters of support thus far. A sample letter of support is attached. The bill is currently in the House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee, Water and Power Subcommittee. It is anticipated that the bill will be read in February. Senator Harry Reid has introduced an identical version of the bill in the Senate and this legislation is supported by California Senators Feinstein and Boxer.



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**DRAFT**

[Insert Date]

Representative Grace Napolitano  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1610 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0001

**RE: Hoover Power Allocation Act**

Dear Representative Napolitano:

On behalf of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), I want to thank you for your leadership in sponsoring legislation in the 111th Congress that will authorize a new 50-year contract for hydropower generated at Hoover Dam. I am writing to convey the SGVCOG's support for HR 4349: Hoover Power Allocation Act of 2009 that extends and expands the Hoover Power Plant Act of 1984.

The provision of power from the Hoover Dam is currently scheduled to expire in 2017. Because of the importance Hoover Dam represents to communities in California, Nevada, and Arizona, this legislation will ensure that communities that benefit from Hoover Dam power today will continue to have access to this source of power well into the future. A balanced compromise has been agreed to by all public stakeholders in all three states that will ensure a continued power supply to current beneficiaries while also allowing an opportunity for additional communities to access this resource.

Hoover Dam power represents a critical resource for Southern California. We support your efforts to extend the Hoover Power Plant Act in order to ensure a safe, reliable, and emission-free power supply for communities in the San Gabriel Valley for years to come.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. King  
President