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January 7, 2003

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Dick Watson, John Fazio, Michael Schilmoeller

**SUBJECT:** Regional Power Supply Adequacy Update

The current January through July run-off volume forecast (the "early-bird" forecast) is 80 Million Acre Feet (MAF) or about 75 percent of the average runoff volume. This assumes normal precipitation from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December forward. However, at this point in the year there is a great deal of uncertainty in the forecast. The forecast minimum is 50 MAF or 47 percent of average while the maximum is 110 MAF or 103 percent of average. Staff have evaluated power supply adequacy for this winter. We have taken two approaches. First we used subsets of the historical water and temperature records that result in an average runoff equal to the current forecast. Subsequently, we also used a set of "synthetic" water and temperature records developed by BPA to reflect current forecasts. In both instances, we do not anticipate reliability problems this winter. We are in the process of reviewing our estimates for subsequent winters. Staff will report its findings to you at the Council meeting.

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