Attachment 11
United States Army Corps of Engineers Lake Level Determination

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 532711
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90053-2325

August 15, 2003

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Office of the Chief
Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch

Mr. Stephen C. Thomas
Senior Civil Engineer
Riverside County Flood Control
and Water Conservation District
1995 Market Street
Riverside, California 92501

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I am writing to reply to your letter of June 24, 2002 to Joseph Evelyn, Chief, Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch, regarding the Lake Elsinore - Tetra Tech Lake Level Replenishment Study-June 2002 Revision. On July 31, 2003 a meeting was held among Roger Shintaku representing Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Joseph Evelyn, and yourself to discuss questions related to the lake replenishment plan, and how the 100-year lake elevation value would be applied in management of development surrounding the lake.

As you requested, we have reviewed the Tetra Tech, Inc. letter of June 6, 2002 along with the revised report entitled "Lake Elsinore Replenishment Level Study Alternative Analysis" dated May 2001/Revised June 2002. The letter and report adequately addressed our comments raised in our letter to you dated January 29, 2002.

Tetra Tech Inc.'s letter and report of June 2002 present lake elevation versus frequency determinations that technically support allowing a year-around lake level minimum of 1248.5 feet without increasing the 100-year lake level. However given the uncertainty inherent in all hydrologic frequency determinations, and the risk of costly future inundation damage to development around the lake perimeter, it is prudent to limit the lake replenishment level to 1247 feet during the flood season (December through March).

Therefore we fully support Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District's (RCFCD) position that a lake elevation of 1247 feet is an appropriate year-around minimum lake elevation that should not alter the 100-year lake elevation of 1263.3 feet established as part of the Corps/RCFCD lake outlet channel project. Supplemental water may be added to the lake at any time during the year to maintain a minimum lake elevation of 1247 feet.

Furthermore, the addition of supplemental water during the non-flood season is permissible to the extent that the lake level returns to an elevation of 1247 feet or lower by the start of each

flood season. Supplemental water may be added to the lake beginning April 1 of each year to raise the lake level above elevation 1247 feet, provided the lake level returns to 1247 feet or lower by December 1 each year. Based on the historical inflow record for Lake Elsinore, the potential for significant lake inflow from precipitation events occurring during April to November is sufficiently small as to have no appreciable impact on the 100-year lake level.

We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with RCFCD in the review of proposed changes to the Lake Elsinore replenishment plan in advance of a formal request to amend the Lake Elsinore Outlet Project Local Cooperation Agreement between the Corps and RCFCD. For additional information concerning this response, please contact Joseph Evelyn, Chief of Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch, at (213) 452-3525. Copies of this letter are being furnished to Mr. Ira Artz, Tetra Tech, Inc., Infrastructure Services Group, 17770 Cartwright Road, Suite 500, Irvine, California 92614 and Mr. Roger Shintaku, Shintaku and Associates, 1718 N. Arthur Drive, Brea, California 92621.

Sincerely,

for Robert E. Koplin, P.E.
Chief, Engineering Division