



**For Immediate Release:
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Inland Empire Utilities Agency Opposes Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Proposed Labor Memoranda of Understanding

Inland Empire - At its regular board meeting on Wednesday, October 7, 2009, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency's (IEUA) Board of Directors took the position of opposition to the Metropolitan Water Districts' (MWD) proposed Memoranda of Understanding pension plan.

"During this severe economic recession is not the time to be considering expanding employee benefits," stated IEUA Board President Terry Catlin. "All of our cities and water districts within the IEUA service area are focused on reducing costs to avoid any mandatory employee layoffs. The Inland Empire Utilities Agency's Board of Directors can't in good faith support MWD's proposed changes to their public employee pension plan that could potentially create higher water rates for our residents," continued Catlin.

MWD's proposed plan would give employees an enhanced retirement pension benefit and a 23 percent increase in wages over the next five years.

The Inland Empire Utilities Agency is a municipal water district that supplies the imported water needs for the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Ontario, Upland, Montclair, Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga.

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