# San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Legislative Update



June 2, 2025

### State Legislature

- Notable upcoming deadlines/milestones:
  - June 6 House of origin deadline
  - June 15 Legislature's budget approval deadline
  - July 1 Beginning of new fiscal year
  - July 18 August 18 Legislature's Summer recess
  - September 12 Last day of 2025 legislative session
  - October 12 Governor's deadline to act on legislation



### State Budget Update

#### January 2025

Governor's proposed State Budget: \$350M projected surplus

#### May 2025

- Governor's proposed May Revise State Budget:
  \$12B projected shortfall
- Legislative Analyst: \$14B projected shortfall
- Budget subcommittees in each House are wrapping up budget oversight – focus has been on:
  - Proposition 4 roll-out
  - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund expenditures (plus cap/trade reauthorization)



### State Water Contractors Budget Engagement

#### Proposition 4 Priorities

- Conveyance subsidence
- Instream flows
- Stream gages
- Multi-benefit local resiliency projects
- Delta levees
- Golden mussels
- SWP recreation

#### Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

- Oroville pumped storage:
  - 2025-26 = \$30 million
  - 2026-27 = \$100 million
  - 2027-28 = \$100 million
- Conveyance subsidence implementation funding campaign



### Delta Conveyance Project – Budget Trailer Bill

#### Budget trailer bill language proposed by Governor

- Typically advances with the State Budget deliberations to help implement budget provisions
- Generally undertaken outside of conventional policy committee hearings/process
- Expedited consideration by Legislature
- Voted upon at same time as budget bill (but can linger through the Summer)

#### 7 components of DCP budget trailer bill:

- State Water Project Perpetual project to expedite change in point of diversion
- Declaration that DWR has authority to finance the DCP
- Judicial streamlining Limit the authority of courts to enjoin construction of DCP
- Limit the scope of protests at change in point of diversion hearings
- Allow administrative settlements in land acquisitions without first initiating eminent domain proceedings
- Provide DWR full contracting authority for property acquisitions (Similar to HSR / Caltrans)
- Allow DWR to advance payments to utilities to expedite needed utility work

### Delta Conveyance Project – Budget Trailer Bill

#### Rationale for budget trailer bill:

- Streamline administrative processes for the DCP
- Significant savings of time (multiple years) and costs (billions \$) for SWP ratepayers
- Ensure adaptation of the SWP to effects of climate change and protection against earthquake risks

#### DCP budget trailer bill proposals will <u>NOT</u>:

- Weaken or circumvent the environmental review process required for the DCP
- Remove any environmental protections
- Limit any public processes or anyone's right to be heard
- Create any mechanism for taxpayer's funds to be spent on the DCP

### Delta Conveyance Project – Budget Trailer Bill

Inland Empire Organizations Supporting the Delta Conveyance Project TBL























Southwest California Legislative Council























### Energy Issues – Affordability Challenges for SWP

- Implementation of SB 1020 (Laird 2022) Integration of Renewables/Zero-Carbon Resources
  - SWP to be 100% renewable/zero-carbon by 2035
  - Approx. \$2 \$2.5 billion over next 20 years to meet goal
  - There is a need to pursue legislative flexibility in SB 1020 to help achieve 2035 goals more affordably for water ratepayers

#### Electricity transmission

- Costs to harden, enhance, and buildout transmission grid expected to increase by at least \$45 \$60 billion over next 20 years
- SWP has current Transmission Access Charge obligation of 3% (highest of any single entity)
- Depending on water year type, SWP transmission access charges could increase from approximately \$110 million/year to over \$400 million/year
- Potential regulatory/administrative/legislative options:
  - Hybrid TAC
  - Appropriate imposition of transmission costs on entities/uses that are newly-driving infrastructure development needs
  - Compensation for SWP's support to the electrical grid for statewide benefit

## **QUESTIONS?**