

Mid-Pacific Region

Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie

Background

The Intertie is in an unincorporated area of the San Joaquin Valley in Alameda County, west of the city of Tracy, Calif. in a rural agricultural area on federal and state lands. A shared federal-state water system improvement project, the Intertie connects the Delta-Mendota Canals (DMC) (federal facility) and the California Aqueduct (CA) (state facility) and pumping station via two 108-inch-diameter pipes. The pumping station has a capacity of 467 cubic feet per second (cfs) up hill and 900 cfs gravity flow from the CA to the DMC. The Intertie is located at the closest point between the DMC and CA which is 500 feet horizontal and 50 feet vertical. The Intertie is downstream from C.W. "Bill" Jones and Harvey O. Banks pumping plants at DMC Mile 7.2 and CA Mile 9.



Delta-Mendota Canal

Jones Pumping Plant and the DMC are the primary federal water delivery facilities that provide water to Central Valley Operations (CVP) contractors south of the Bay-Delta. The Intertie provides redundancy in the water distribution system, allows for maintenance and repair activities that are less disruptive to water deliveries, and provides the flexibility to respond to CVP and State Water Project (SWP) emergencies. The contract was awarded in July 2010 and construction was completed in April 2012.

Operations

The Intertie went into operation in July 2012. It will increase operational flexibility for the combined CVP/SWP project operations. The initial operation is anticipated to increase CVP exports through the Delta for the months of July, August and September 2012. The Intertie allows for additional water to be flow into federal San Luis Reservoir to support South-of-Delta allocations. The CVP/SWP continue to work together to determine the most beneficial means of utilizing the Intertie. The Intertie is included in the Endangered Species Act consultation for CVP and SWP Operations and the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service's Biological Opinions. The Intertie will primarily be used in the fall and winter to fill the CVP's San Luis Reservoir



Constructing the Intertie pipes that connect the Delta-Mendota Canal to the California Aqueduct.

earlier in the year. On a long-term annual average basis the Intertie is expected to provide a 35,000 acre-foot increase in CVP deliveries. The Intertie operations will comply with the existing pumping restriction guidelines that govern operations at Banks and Jones Pumping Plants.

Project Benefits

Operation of the Intertie improves reliability of CVP water deliveries to south of Delta contractors. It will fill the CVP San Luis Reservoir earlier in the water year and provide flexibility during CVP or SWP maintenance activities or emergencies.

Costs/Funding

The Intertie cost \$29 million which includes planning, design, permitting, mitigation, and construction management in addition to the pumping plant and transmission line construction cost. The Intertie was constructed using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and other federally appropriated funds, as well as water user contributed funds. Federal costs are being recovered from benefitting water contractors according to Reclamation ratesetting policy.



Intertie Pump Station located between the California Aqueduct and the Delta-Mendota Canals.

For More Information:

MP Region Public Affairs

(916) 978-5100

www.usbr.gov/mp

September 2012



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation