

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 42
was approved as Minute Item
No. 42 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 2
to 0 at its 2/9/82
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

42

1/28/82
W 503.1188
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AUTHORITY TO INTERVENE IN
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA V. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
(USDC SOUTHERN DISTRICT CASE NO. 81-0678-GT-M)

This case involves a water rights dispute between Metropolitan Water District (MWD) and various Indian tribes along the Colorado River represented by the federal government. It is primarily a water rights case but the amount of water over which the Indians have a priority use right is to be determined by the amount of practicably irrigable acreage to which they are entitled. MWD has introduced the issue of California's ownership of one-half of the natural bed and is arguing that such lands should be excluded in determining the amount of water to which the Indians are entitled.

Because the question of the State's ownership has been introduced, to include the location and extent of such ownership, staff believes that the State's interest would be best served by granting the Office of the Attorney General and staff immediate authority to intervene in the case to insure that the State's claims are properly represented.

AB 884: N/A.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. GRANT THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND STAFF IMMEDIATE AUTHORITY TO INTERVENE IN THE CASE OF METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA V. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USDC SOUTHERN DISTRICT CASE NO. 81-0678-GT-M); AND TO DILIGENTLY PURSUE THE INTERESTS OF THE STATE IN SUCH LITIGATION.

A 34, 75

-1-

S 16, 38

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