

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Water Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 15, 2006

CONTACT:

Tedi Jackson (619) 527-3121 – office (619) 279-9304 – cell

Low Water Level Closes Boat Launch Ramps at San Vicente Reservoir

Extra Water Used by City during County Water Authority Pipeline Break Leaves San Vicente Lower than Normal for this Time of Year

San Diego – The boat launch ramps at the San Vicente Reservoir have been closed due to low water levels. Though water levels typically decline during the drier months of summer and fall, the reservoir's ramps are normally available for use year-round. This year the reservoir's water levels are lower than normal due to an unexpected use of reservoir water to make up for an interruption of water supply from the San Diego County Water Authority (CWA). CWA water was temporarily unavailable because of a break in one of its pipelines in May.

Joe Weber, the City of San Diego's Reservoir Program Manager, expects the ramps to reopen during winter months when the City fills San Vicente with water flowing from outside San Diego. "It's unfortunate to close the ramps," said Weber. "We know how important boat access is out here," he said.

Weber also reported that San Vicente will be switching to temporary hours of operation beginning Thursday, September 14. During this temporary schedule the reservoir will be closed Saturday through Wednesday of each week. The reservoir will remain open on Thursdays and Fridays and visitors can enjoy shore fishing, boat rentals, and self-launched boats such as kayaks, canoes, and inflatable boats from sunrise to sunset.

Beginning in January 2007 through April 2007, the reservoir will be closed on weekdays and open on weekends and holidays for fishing due to construction activity on a surge control facility associated with the CWA's Emergency Storage Project (ESP). For more information on the ESP project visit <u>www.sdcwa.org</u>.

For more information on the City Reservoir and Recreation Program, please visit <u>http://www.sandiego.gov/water/recreation/</u> or call (619) 465-3474.

The Water Department maintains the water system that serves San Diego, and provides treated water service to the City of Del Mar, and wholesale water service to the California-American Water Company delivering water to Coronado, Imperial Beach, and portions of southern San Diego. This includes the treatment and delivery of more than 200 million gallons of water that is transported daily through more than 3,000 miles of pipelines. For more information about the Water Department's programs and services, please visit <u>www.sandiego.gov/water</u> or call (619) 515-3500 for general information.