MWH, CH2M Hill to Design Intake for Southern Nevada Water Authority

MWH announced in August that the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) retained that consulting firm and CH2M Hill to jointly design a new water supply intake in Lake Mead. The intake will provide critical drought protection and water quality improvements for more than 1 million southern Nevada residents. The design phase of the project is due to be completed in the next two years and construction will be completed by 2011. Total project cost is currently estimated to be $650 million.

The new intake, known as Lake Mead Intake No. 3, will replace the 600 million gallon-per-day capacity of an older, existing intake should Lake Mead’s water surface drop below an elevation of 1,050 feet above sea level. Lake Mead’s water level has fallen significantly over the past five years as a result of drought. The intake also will allow access to better quality water at deeper levels of the lake.

Ninety percent of the drinking water delivered to customers in southern Nevada comes from the Colorado River and is captured at Lake Mead. Construction of a new intake will ensure SNWA can maintain full system capacity at low lake levels. The project includes an intake shaft approximately three miles from the Lake Mead shoreline connecting to a tunnel under the lake bottom and to an aboveground pumping station. Water will be pumped to an existing SNWA treatment facility.

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In-Situ Releases Upgraded Level Monitor

In-Situ Inc. has introduced an upgraded water level monitor, the Level TROLL 700, designed for such applications as single and multi-step aquifer testing, precise river gauging, tidal influence studies, wave characterization, geothermal research, and storm-event monitoring.

The new monitor features all-titanium construction and is small enough to fit in one-inch wells. Following the earlier TROLL 500, the 700 series offers a variety of new logging modes, “pause” and “restart” logging features within the same file (convenient for multi-step aquifer tests), a larger memory (350,000+ data points), 0.25-second sampling (useful for earthquake detection and wave modeling), an ultra-low power system (guaranteed to operate for a minimum of five years or two million data points), and the ability to store and manage up to 50 log files.


Aquair: Producing Water From Air

Aquair Inc. of Rancho Santa Margarita, California, recently signed an exclusive sales and marketing agreement with Sweden-based Munters Corporation, which specializes in dehumidifying technology. Munters owns patents for products that condition air to control humidity while condensing water from it.

Aquair plans to sell Munters’ equipment to customers in the oil and gas industry (drilling and refinery), residential building industry, private and commercial shipping industry, and government agencies. In addition, Aquair will sell the equipment to companies that want to bottle water using Munters technology. The products tap moisture from the air, then filter and treat it to drinking water quality.