

Pact Will Provide More Water for Southland in 1990s

Future enlargement of the California Aqueduct to provide more water for Southern California beyond 1990 will be possible under an agreement announced Monday by the State Department of Water Resources.

The agreement with agencies contracting for Northern California water calls for modifications in the aqueduct now to permit later enlargement at minimum costs.

First deliveries of Feather River water through the 444-mile-long aqueduct, now under construction, are due at Castaic Reservoir northwest of Los Angeles in 1971 and at Perris Reservoir in Riverside County in 1972.

13 Agencies Approve

Thirteen water agencies, including the Metropolitan Water District, approved the modifications which will add an estimated \$6 million now to their costs for State Water Project facilities south of the Tehachapi Mountains.

This will make it possible for the giant Tehachapi Pumping Plant, the aqueduct across Antelope Valley and other facilities to be enlarged at considerable savings when the need for more water develops, the state said.

The State Water Project, which will tap surplus rivers in Northern California and transport water down more than half the state's length, was initially designed to meet the

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Southland's mounting water needs until 1990.

At the same time, Metropolitan announced plans to sell approximately \$100 million in general obligation bonds about June 6 to pay for enlarging district facilities to distribute Feather River water here.

The sale is the first offering of an \$850 million bond issue approved by Southern California voters last June.

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