

AVEK moving to solve area water problems . . . Putnam

Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency is on the right track toward meeting the area's water needs, according to the top water officials of Los Angeles County.

Kenneth R. Putnam, speaking for eight Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts within the Water Agency, last night stated:

"We agree that the program submitted to the electorate by your Agency for a district-wide bond issue and district-wide construction program is the most feasible and desirable; and although the voters have not approved the two bond issues, we believe that history will tell that this method proposed by your agency is the most economical and feasible in terms of assuring that most areas of your Agency are able to receive a supply of supplemental water from the California Aqueduct system within the terms of the AVEK contract with the State of California.

"The eight Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts within the boundaries of AVEK have supported the Agency-wide concept in the past and continue to do so today."

Putnam appeared before a public hearing called by the Water Agency to explore alternative methods for solving the local water shortage. He took issue with a statement presented to the Water Agency at a prior hearing session by John N. Englund of Lancaster, in which Englund claimed that the groundwater table in the Lancaster vicinity is, now, rising.

Citing long-term water well data maintained by the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts, Putnam disagreed with Englund's conclusions and method of analysis.

"Water levels are dropping," Putnam emphasized. "Continued use in excess of natural recharge of the natural resource of the ground water basins of the area is a

depletion of the resources. There does not appear to be any reversal of that situation coming in the immediate future."

Urging the Water Agency to keep trying to implement its present proposal for building the distribution system needed to make local use of State Project water, Putnam stated:

"While various population growth figures have been kicked around, the AVEK area continues to grow and

the foreseeable trend appears to be continuation of that development. Policies proposed of land zoning and planning under the General Plan Environmental Development Guide of the County of Los Angeles will permit continued growth.

If the area is to assure its future, whether it be just for those who reside here today or both those here and for those that will come in the future, a plan for utilization of the supplemental supply needs to go ahead."

Roger Peckinpaugh named Edison's planning manager

Roger I. Peckinpaugh has been named Planning Manager of Edison's Lancaster District effective January 29, 1973, it was announced by W. R. Bechtel, District Manager.

Peckinpaugh, who was formerly the Operations Supervisor here, started his Edison career as a groundman and has been a lineman, service planner, and underground supervisor. He joined Edison in 1950, and except for a tour with the U. S. Army, has been located at Montebello, Whittier, Long Beach, Inglewood, San Fernando, Alhambra, and at the Los Angeles office.

He was born in McLouth, Kansas, but has resided in California since he was 5 years old. He is a graduate

of Long Beach Polytechnic High School and Long Beach Junior College. He also studied at Cal-Poly, Pomona, and Cal-Tech, Pasadena.

Peckinpaugh is married to the former Patti McDermott of Illinois, and they reside at College Terrace with Kurt, 10, and Conya, 8, both students at Sunnysdale School. There are two other sons: Robert, 22, is currently serving with the U. S. Air Force; and Donald, 21, resides in Newhall.

Peckinpaugh served as a member of the Santa Clarita Engineering Association and was active as a Junior Achievement adviser at East Los Angeles Center. He is now a member of the Lancaster Kiwanis Club.



EDISON PLANNING MANAGER — Roger I. Peckin-



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Antelope Valley Press
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p. 3

Antelope Valley 2 ~~pdf~~ 37