

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(D) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 10, 2003

American States Water Company
Southern California Water Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

American States Water Company

California

333-47647

95-4676679

(State of other jurisdiction of incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

630 East Foothill Boulevard, San Dimas,
California

91773-1212

(909) 394-3600

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

(Telephone)

Southern California Water Company

California

000-01121

95-1243678

(State of other jurisdiction of incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

630 East Foothill Boulevard, San Dimas,
California

91773-1212

(909) 394-3600

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(Zip Code)

(Telephone)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last reports.)
Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Events

On October 20, 2003, the Company filed a press release confirming that it has entered into a confidential memorandum of understanding with the Aerojet-General subsidiary of GenCorp, Inc., regarding the settlement of legal actions brought by American States Water Company and its Southern California Water Company subsidiary against Aerojet-General. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

Exhibit 99.1 Press Release

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Press Release dated October 20, 2003

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirement of the Securities Exchange Act of 1935, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

American States Water Company
Southern California Water Company

(Registrant)

October 20, 2003

(Date)

/s/ McClellan Harris III

(Signature)*

McClellan Harris III
Principal Financial and Accounting Officer,
CFO, Sr. VP-Finance, Treasurer and Secretary

*Print name and title of the signing officer under his signature



American States WATER COMPANY

American States Water Company Announces Signing of Memorandum of Understanding Related to Water Contamination Lawsuit

San Dimas, California, October 20, 2003 . . . American States Water Company (NYSE:AWR) today confirmed that on October 10, 2003 it had entered into a confidential memorandum of understanding with the Aerojet-General subsidiary of GenCorp, Inc. for the settlement of legal actions brought by American States Water Company and its Southern California Water Company subsidiary against Aerojet-General. The memorandum of understanding provides an outline for a potential settlement agreement. A final settlement agreement incorporating the terms of the memorandum of understanding is subject to further review and negotiation, regulatory and other approvals and reaching satisfactory agreements with other affected water purveyors.

American States Water Company sued Aerojet-General in October 1999 for damages, including unspecified past costs, replacement water for contaminated drinking water wells near Aerojet-General's Sacramento, California, manufacturing facility and other future damages. The trial date scheduled for October 2003 has been deferred to November 2003 to permit the recently initiated settlement discussions between Aerojet-General and American States Water Company to proceed. Of significance to the case is Aerojet-General's recent agreement with the Sacramento County Water Agency ("SCWA") in which Aerojet-General agreed to transfer all remediated groundwater from its Sacramento California site to the SCWA. Subject to various provisions of the SCWA agreement including approval under the California Environmental Quality Act, SCWA will assume responsibility for providing replacement water to American States Water Company and other impacted water purveyors.

American States Water Company is a holding company that, through its subsidiaries, provides water service to 1 out of 30 Californians located within 75 communities throughout 10 counties in Northern, Coastal and Southern California and to approximately 12,000 customers in the city of Fountain Hills, Arizona and portions of Scottsdale, Arizona. The Company distributes electricity to approximately 22,000 customers in the Big Bear recreational area of California, and contracts with various municipalities and private entities in both California and Arizona to provide services to an additional 97,500 customers.

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