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JARED BLUMENFELD
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

State Water Resources Control Board

March 22, 2019

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
MAR 22 2019
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Mesa Water District
Attn: Ms. Karyn Igar, P.E
1965 Placentia Avenue
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

RE: MESA WATER DISTRICT, MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (MND) FOR THE WELLS NO. 12 AND NO. 14 AND PIPELINE PROJECT (PROJECT); SCH # 2019029119

Dear Ms. Igar:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the MND for the proposed Project. The State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (State Water Board) is responsible for issuing water supply permits administered under the Safe Drinking Water Act and will require a new or amended water supply permit for the above referenced Project. A project requires a permit if it includes water system consolidation or changes to a water supply source, storage, or treatment. The State Water Board is a responsible agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and considers the above referenced document as adequate to meet water supply permit CEQA requirements.

The proposed Project includes construction of two new potable water wells on approximately 0.89 acre of land located in the City of Santa Ana, California. The District purchased two properties within the City of Santa Ana to be used as groundwater well sites. Well No. 12 is located at 4011 W. Chandler Avenue. Well No. 14 is located at 3120 S. Croddy Way. The Project includes drilling, constructing, developing, testing, and equipping of Wells No. 12 and No. 14, plus construction of facilities at the sites for operation of the wells. In addition, approximately 4,500 feet of pipeline will connect the two wells to Mesa Water District's distribution system traversing Chandler Avenue to Croddy Way to W. MacArthur Boulevard to Hyland Avenue. The long-range plan for the Project is to provide enough space to construct a second generation, separate water well at each well site when the original wells have significantly reduced production and cannot be recovered by rehabilitation.

Proposed Well No. 12 and associated structures and equipment would be constructed within a 0.43-acre site. Proposed Well No. 14 and associated structures and equipment would be constructed within a 0.46-acre site. Each well site will include a well building, electrical building, SCE transformer, chemical storage area, emergency backup generator, and a well water waste air gap. Both wells are located outside of Mesa Water District's service area and will require the construction of approximately 4,500 feet of pipeline to connect the proposed wells to Mesa Water District's existing system. Construction is anticipated to begin in the third quarter of 2020 fiscal year and last approximately 20 months. Existing office and storage buildings at each location will be demolished and trees will be removed in order to provide

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

work area to drill the wells. Once operational, Wells No. 12 and No. 14 can potentially provide an additional 6 to 8 million gallons per day of safe and reliable drinking water.

COMMENTS

2.2.3.1 Well No. 12 Storm Drain (page 2-6) Consider if a Waste Discharge Permit is required. Is the proposed 18" storm drain a permanent drain or a temporary drain for construction? What is the length of the proposed 18" diameter storm drain for Well 12?

2.2.3.2 Well No. 14 Storm Drain (page 2-8) Consider if a Waste Discharge Permit is required. Is the proposed 18" storm drain a permanent drain or a temporary drain for construction?

2.3 (page 2-11) - State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water – Water Quality (add) Supply Permit

2.3 (page 2-11) – (add if required) State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality – Construction General Permit (CGP)

3.1 (Page 3-1) Environmental Factors Potentially Affected – Check the appropriate boxes in the table.

3.4.6(b) Geology and Soils, Soil erosion or loss of topsoil (page 3-25) - Check the box for Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated (if a CGP is required).

3.4.6(b) Geology and Soils, Soil erosion or loss of topsoil (page 3-27) Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated (if a CGP is required). Please recalculate the total project impact area for soil disturbance including the area to be graded on each parcel, the surface area of any trenches, and the soil areas outside of the trenches that will be graded and or disturbed by construction equipment, vehicles, and machinery during construction activities. Contact the Construction Stormwater Program staff at (866) 563-3107 or stormwater@waterboards.ca.gov for confirmation of the soil disturbance area for the Project.

- Mitigation Measures: (Please add if required) GEO-1: Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)

3.4.9(a) Hydrology and Water Quality (page 3-39) Short Term Impacts – The proposed Project would be subject to the requirements of the CGP if the Project impact area will be greater than one acre of soil disturbance.

Mitigation Measures: (Reference GEO-1 SWPPP if required)

3.4.19(a) Mandatory Findings of Significance – (page 3-70) Include a discussion regarding soil disturbance and the CGP including mitigation measure GEO-1. (if required)

- Mitigation Measures: (add if required) GEO-1 SWPPP

When the review process has ended, please forward the following items with your permit application to the Santa Ana District Office:

- Copy of the draft and final MND with any comment letters received and the lead agency responses as appropriate;
- Copy of the Resolution or Board Minutes certifying and adopting the MND;
- Copy of the stamped Notice of Determination (NOD) filed at the Orange County Clerk's Office or Governor's Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse.

Please contact James Jablonski at Santa Ana District Office, at (714) 558-4410 or James.Jablonski@waterboards.ca.gov if you have any questions regarding water supply permit requirements.

Ms. Igar

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March 22, 2019

Sincerely,

Susan Stewart
Environmental Scientist
PO Box 944212
Sacramento CA, 94244-2120

cc: Office of Planning and Research, State
Clearinghouse

James Jablonski
Santa Ana District