

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH# 2019069025

Project Title: NID E. George to Lake Wildwood Backbone Extension Pipeline Project

Lead Agency: Nevada Irrigation District Contact Person: Tonia M Tabucchi Herrera, Sr Eng
Mailing Address: 1036 Main Street Phone: (530) 273-6185
City: Grass Valley Zip: 95945 County: Nevada County

Project Location: County: Nevada County City/Nearest Community: Rough and Ready
Cross Streets: Rough and Ready Hwy, Riffle Box Rd, Empty Diggins Ln, Bosa Dr, Minnow Way Zip Code:
Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): Section: Twp.: Range: Base:
Assessor's Parcel No.: Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: Waterways:
Airports: Railways: Schools:

Document Type:

CEQA: [] NOP [] Draft EIR NEPA: [] NOI Other: [] Joint Document
[] Early Cons [] Supplement/Subsequent EIR [] EA [] Final Document
[] Neg Dec (Prior SCH No.) [] Draft EIS [] Other:
[X] Mit Neg Dec Other:

Local Action Type:

[] General Plan Update [] Specific Plan [] Rezone [] Annexation
[] General Plan Amendment [] Master Plan [] Prezone [] Redevelopment
[] General Plan Element [] Planned Unit Development [] Use Permit [] Coastal Permit
[] Community Plan [] Site Plan [] Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) [] Other:

Development Type:

[] Residential: Units Acres
[] Office: Sq.ft. Acres Employees
[] Commercial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees
[] Industrial: Sq.ft. Acres Employees
[] Educational:
[] Recreational:
[] Water Facilities: Type MGD
[] Transportation: Type
[] Mining: Mineral
[] Power: Type MW
[] Waste Treatment: Type MGD
[] Hazardous Waste: Type
[] Other:

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

[X] Aesthetic/Visual [] Fiscal [X] Recreation/Parks [X] Vegetation
[X] Agricultural Land [] Flood Plain/Flooding [] Schools/Universities [X] Water Quality
[X] Air Quality [X] Forest Land/Fire Hazard [X] Septic Systems [X] Water Supply/Groundwater
[X] Archeological/Historical [X] Geologic/Seismic [X] Sewer Capacity [X] Wetland/Riparian
[X] Biological Resources [] Minerals [X] Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading [X] Growth Inducement
[] Coastal Zone [X] Noise [X] Solid Waste [] Land Use
[X] Drainage/Absorption [X] Population/Housing Balance [X] Toxic/Hazardous [X] Cumulative Effects
[] Economic/Jobs [X] Public Services/Facilities [X] Traffic/Circulation [] Other:

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Zoning: RA-3, C1, R2, AG-5. General Plan Designations: RC, RUR-5, NC, UMD, BP, PUB, RUR-10

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)
Please see attached PD.

State Clearinghouse Contact: (916) 445-0613

State Review Began: 6 - 7 - 2019

SCH COMPLIANCE 7 - 8 - 2019

Project Sent to the following State Agencies

X Resources Cal EPA
Boating & Waterways ARB: Airport & Freight
Central Valley Flood Prot. ARB: Transportation Projects
Coastal Comm X ARB: Major Industrial/Energy
Colorado Rvr Bd Resources, Recycl. & Recovery
X Conservation X SWRCB: Div. of Drinking Water
X CDFW # 2 SWRCB: Div. Drinking Wtr #
X Cal Fire SWRCB: Div. Financial Assist.
X Historic Preservation SWRCB: Wtr Quality
X Parks & Rec SWRCB: Wtr Rights
Bay Cons & Dev Comm. X Reg. WQCB # 55
X DWR X Toxic Sub Ctrl-CTC

Yth/Adlt Corrections

Corrections

CalSTA

Aeronautics
CHP
X Caltrans# 3
Trans Planning

Other

Education
Food & Agriculture
HCD
OES
State/Consumer Svcs
General Services

Independent Comm

Delta Protection Comm
Delta Stewardship Council
Energy Commission
X NAHC
Public Utilities Comm
Santa Monica Bay Restoration
State Lands Comm
Tahoe Rgl Plan Agency
Conservancy
Other:

Please note State Clearinghouse Number (SCH#) on all Comments

SCH#: 2019069025

Please forward late comments directly to the Lead Agency

AQMD/APCD 21

(Resources: 6 / 8)

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

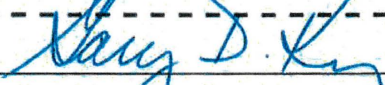
- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District #3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB #5 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region #2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission | |

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date June 7, 2019 Ending Date July 7, 2019

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>Ecorp Consulting, Inc.</u>	Applicant: <u>Nevada Irrigation District</u>
Address: <u>2525 Warren Drive</u>	Address: <u>1036 West Main Street</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>Rocklin, CA 95677</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>Grass Valley, CA 95945</u>
Contact: <u>Chris Stabenfeldt</u>	Phone: <u>530-273-6185</u>
Phone: <u>916-782-9100</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative:  **Date:** 6-4-19

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

SECTION 1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 Summary

- Project Title:** NID Elizabeth George to Lake Wildwood Backbone Extension Pipeline Project
- Lead Agency Name and Address:** Nevada Irrigation District (NID)
1036 W Main St
Grass Valley, CA 95945
- Contact Person and Phone Number:** Tonia Herrera, Senior Engineer
(916) 273-6185
- Project Location:** The Project is generally located along 5.6 miles of Rough and Ready Highway in Nevada County, California. The proposed alignment begins on the east at the West Drive/Rough and Ready Highway intersection and extends westerly along Rough and Ready Highway and other local roads to the Lake Wildwood Drive/Chaparral Drive intersection on the west. The Project would be constructed within the existing right-of-way of the following roadways: Rough and Ready Highway, Rough and Ready Road, Riffle Box Road, Empty Diggins Lane, Bosa Drive, Minnow Lane, and Lake Wildwood Drive. There are two cross country segments: one at the west end of Riffle Box Road and one just east of Minnow Lane (along a fire road easement).
- General Plan Designation:** Rural Commercial (RC), Rural 5 acre (RUR-5), Neighborhood Commercial (NC), Urban Medium Density Res (UMD), Business Park (BP), Public (PUB), Rural 10 acre (RUR-10)
- Zoning:** Residential Agricultural – 3 acre minimum (RA-3), Neighborhood Commercial (C1), Medium Density (R2) General Agricultural – 5 acres (AG-5)

1.2 Introduction

NID is the CEQA Lead Agency for the Elizabeth George to Lake Wildwood Backbone Extension Pipeline Project (Proposed Project). This Initial Study has been prepared to identify and assess the anticipated environmental impacts of the Proposed Project. This document has been prepared to satisfy requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Res. Code, Section 21000 *et seq.*)

and State CEQA Guidelines (14 CCR 15000 *et seq.*). CEQA requires that all state and local government agencies consider the environmental consequences of Projects over which they have discretionary authority before acting on those Projects. A CEQA Initial Study (IS) is typically prepared to determine which CEQA document is appropriate for a Project (i.e., typically an IS leads to either a Negative Declaration [ND], Mitigated Negative Declaration [MND], or Environmental Impact Report [EIR]).

1.3 Environmental Setting

The proposed project is located in Nevada County which is situated in the Sierra Nevada Foothills, approximately 60 miles northeast of Sacramento. The climate is considered to be Mediterranean, with hot, dry summers and cool, rainy winters. The county lies within the Sacramento River watershed. The eastern most point of the Project alignment is at approximately 2,400 feet AMSL, while the western most point is at approximately 1,500 feet AMSL.

According to the Nevada County General Plan, land use is dominated by designated Forest and Rural lands. These make up over 80% of land in the county. While the Project would take place primarily within existing roadways, the majority of the surrounding lands are designated as Rural. (See Figure 1.3-2 Representative Photographs)

The source water used by the Lake Wildwood Water Treatment Plant (WTP) originates in Deer Creek and flows through the Scott's Flat and Lower Scott's Flat Reservoirs, then through the Newtown Canal to the Lake Wildwood WTP. Raw water diverted from the Newtown canal is conveyed through a pipeline to the raw water ponds at the WTP site, located on the west side of Lake Wildwood at 12622 Pleasant Valley Road (HDR, 2017). The project would provide a connection between the Elizabeth George Water Treatment Plant (E. George WTP) and the Lake Wildwood WTP and will serve as a backup water sources to the Lake Wildwood area. The E. George WTP is located northwest of the project on Banner Mountain (Nevada City) and has a capacity of 18 million gallons per day.

SECTION 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Project Background Need and Objective

Background

NID is located in northern California with the northern boundary set by the Yuba River, the western boundary set by the Yuba/Nevada County Line, bound on the south by the cities of Lincoln and Auburn, and bound on the east by a line extending north from Rollins Reservoir Dam. The district supplies water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, and industrial uses through an extensive reservoir and canal system and network of water treatment plants. NID treated water service areas are located in and around Grass Valley and Nevada City, Banner Mountain, the Glenbrook Basin, Loma Rica, Alta Sierra, Lake of the Pines, Penn Valley, Lake Wildwood, Smartville, and north Auburn.

Lake Wildwood is currently served by the existing Lake Wildwood water treatment plant (WTP) that is the sole supply of drinking water to the community. The WTP was built in stages (with the oldest portion over 40 years old) and has (at times) been forced to run near maximum capacity (4 million gallons/day). According to the Lake Wildwood Water Treatment Plant Capacity Study and Options Analysis Final Report (HDR 2017) the WTP is reaching the end of its useful life and will not be able to meet future demands and many components will require upgrades or replacement in the near future.

Need

Water supply reliability is a key concern of the District and efforts have been made throughout NID's water system to intertie supply facilities, which greatly increases reliability and operational flexibility. These both provide for the ability to maintain a consistent service to the District's customers. This is the focus and main consideration of the Project.

Objective

The proposed Project entails constructing a new water transmission pipeline primarily within roadways to provide a connection between the E. George WTP located on Banner Mountain and the Lake Wildwood WTP and distribution system. The Project would provide a second and/or alternate sources of treated water in the event of a failure or raw water interruption at the Lake Wildwood WTP. This treated water service includes drinking, fire protection, and emergency supplies.

As described above, the pipeline would bring treated water from the Elizabeth George WTP to the Lake Wildwood community and surrounding areas for both supplemental and emergency needs. Pipeline construction would allow the NID to continue to utilize the existing Lake Wildwood WTP while planning for its future replacement. In addition, the pipeline would connect customers to the public water system who are not currently connected, while also increasing water supply reliability to new and existing customers.

The proposed Project would allow access to treated water services for properties along the route. Properties not immediately abutting the project alignment were also identified so that the pipeline

could be adequately sized to serve variance parcels or water line (pipeline) extension requests. A variance is a parcel that is not or will not be in the foreseeable future adjacent to a treated water line.

2.2 Project Characteristics

Alignment

The Project is located along the Rough and Ready Highway and other roads in Nevada County, CA. The project spans an approximately 5.6-mile linear alignment that has two sections where it deviates from the roadway right of way and extends across private land. Below is the total alignment and approximate section lengths:

- Along Rough and Ready Highway from West Drive (eastern most project boundary) to Rough and Ready Road (approximately 2.5 miles).
- From Rough and Ready Highway the project continues west along Rough and Ready Road to Riffle Box Road (approximately 1.75 miles).
- The project continues approximately 460 feet west along Riffle Box Road. At this point Riffle Box Road then makes a sharp turn north; however, the project alignment continues east cross country approximately 830 feet where it rejoins Rough and Ready Road.
- The project then continues west 209 feet where it turns south onto Empty Diggins Lane
- From the intersection of Rough and Ready Road and Empty Diggins Lane the project continues southwest along Empty Diggins Road to Bosa Drive (approximately 0.3 miles).
- The project then turns north on Bosa Drive and continues approximately 0.3 miles to a private driveway.
- The project follows the private driveway approximately 600 to where it joins Minnow Way. This area is currently an unimproved road owned by the Wildwood Homeowners Association.
- The project then follows Minnow Way approximately 475 feet west to Lake Wildwood Drive.
- At the intersection of Lake Wildwood and Minnow Way the project turns north along Lake Wildwood Drive.
- The project follows Lake Wildwood Drive approximately 0.3 miles north to Chaparral Drive where it ends (western most boundary).