



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Notice of Determination

Approval Date: November 12, 2019
Case No.: **2017.014249ENV**
State Clearinghouse No: 2019079057
Project Title: **Mountain Tunnel Improvements Project**
Lead Agency: San Francisco Planning Department
Project Sponsor: Sue Chau, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
 (415) 554-3238
Staff Contact: Timothy Johnston – (415) 575-9035
 Timothy.Johnston@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.
 Suite 400
 San Francisco,
 CA 94103-2479

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415.558.6378

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415.558.6409

Planning
 Information:
415.558.6377

To: County Clerk, City and County of San Francisco State of California
 City Hall Room 168 Office of Planning and Research
 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place P.O. Box 3044
 San Francisco, CA 94102 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

County Clerk, Mariposa County Community Resources Agency, Tuolumne County
 4982 10th Street 2 S. Green Street
 P.O. Box 247 Sonora, CA 95370
 Mariposa, CA 95338 *Attached fee:* \$50 filing fee and proof of payment of
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 of CDFW filing fee

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Guidelines of the Secretary for Resources, and San Francisco requirements, this Notice of Determination is transmitted to you for filing. At the end of the posting period, please return this Notice to the Staff Contact with a notation of the period it was posted.

Attached fee:

\$69 filing fee AND \$2,354.75 Negative Declaration Fee

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) is proposing the Mountain Tunnel Improvements Project (project) to improve the condition of the existing Mountain Tunnel, and to ensure the tunnel's continued ability to reliably convey water to its 2.7 million customers in the Sierra foothills and San Francisco Bay Area. The project is in the central Sierra Nevada Mountain Range near the town of Groveland in Tuolumne County. The tunnel begins at Early Intake Reservoir on the Tuolumne River and extends approximately 19 miles west to Priest Reservoir, near the town of Groveland. Conditions in the tunnel interior vary along the alignment, with unlined sections on the east and concrete-lined sections on the west.

Currently, the tunnel has deficiencies that diminish its ability to reliably convey water to the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System and increase the difficulty of performing maintenance in the tunnel during normal operation. These deficiencies include deteriorating tunnel lining, accumulation of debris in the tunnel, and increased groundwater infiltration; and reduced operational flexibility, caused by the inaccessibility of the tunnel in certain locations and flow fluctuations or unregulated flow in the tunnel.

To address these deficiencies and ensure that the tunnel satisfies the performance standards established by the SFPUC for the project, the following improvements are proposed:

- Remove debris that has settled on the bottom of the tunnel and that contributes to turbidity and is impeding hydraulic flow
- Address deterioration by repairing defects in the 11 miles of existing tunnel lining
- Improve maintenance access by paving approximately 5,000 feet of currently unlined portions of the tunnel downstream of the Adit 5/6 Portal (intermediate tunnel access)
- Reduce river water infiltration and protect tunnel water quality by constructing a 750-foot bypass tunnel (siphon extension) at South Fork Siphon
- Help protect the tunnel lining, better control pressure in the tunnel, and improve operational flexibility by constructing a new flow control facility at the downstream end of the tunnel near Priest Reservoir
- Facilitate maintenance inside the tunnel by constructing a new portal and adit¹ at the downstream end of the tunnel at Priest Reservoir, and by improving access at the upstream end of the tunnel at the Early Intake Adit
- Reduce stormwater and groundwater infiltration into the tunnel by making improvements at the Second Garrote Shaft²
- Reduce slope instability and erosion through improvements to some of the roads that provide access to the tunnel, and through installation of or improvements to drainage facilities along the roadways and at the adits

The proposed improvement, construction, and staging areas would be located on a mix of lands owned by the U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management, subject to rights-of-way managed by the City and County of San Francisco that were granted under the terms of the 1913 Raker Act;³ lands owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service; city-owned lands; and privately-owned lands.

DETERMINATION:

The City and County of San Francisco decided to carry out or approve the project on November 12, 2019. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) approved the project, known as Project No. 10003085, on November 12, 2019 (SFPUC Resolution No. 19-0213). A copy of the document(s) may be examined at the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, 525 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA

¹ An adit is a side tunnel that provides horizontal access to the main tunnel.

² Two vertical shafts along the alignment—Big Creek and Second Garrote—serve as access points for pumping water from the Mountain Tunnel to local customers.

³ The Raker Act (38 Stat. 242) granted rights-of-way to the city over National Park, National Forest, and unclassified public lands for Hetch Hetchy project facilities, including the Mountain Tunnel.

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Mountain Tunnel Improvements Project

94102 in file no. 10003085 and at the San Francisco Planning Department, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94103 in Case File no. 2017.014249ENV.

1. A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. It is available to the public and may be examined at the Planning Department at the above address.
2. A determination has been made that the project in its approved form will not have a significant effect on the environment.
3. Mitigation measures were made a condition of project approval.

John Rahaim
Planning Director



By Lisa Gibson
Environmental Review Officer

cc: Sue Chau, SFPUC

Governor's Office of Planning & Research
NOV 15 2019
STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

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 # 2019079057

Project Title: Mountain Tunnel Improvements Project

Lead Agency: City and County of San Francisco Planning Department Contact Person: Timothy Johnston
Mailing Address: 1650 Mission Street, Suite 400 Phone: (415) 575-9035
City: San Francisco Zip: 94103 County: San Francisco

Project Location: County: Tuolumne and Mariposa City/Nearest Community: Groveland
Cross Streets: Various Zip Code: Various

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): ... N / ... W Total Acres: Various

Assessor's Parcel No.: Various Section: Twp.: Range: Base:

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: State Route(SR) 120; SR 4 Waterways: Tuolumne River; South Fork Tuolumne River, Priest Res.
Airports: N/A Railways: N/A Schools: Big Oak Flat School, A 6

Document Type:

- CEQA: [] NOP [] Draft EIR [] Early Cons [] Supplement/Subsequent EIR [] Neg Dec [] Mit Neg Dec [] NEPA: [] NOI [] EA [] Draft EIS [] Other: [] Joint Document [] Final Document [] Other: Notice of Determination

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING & RESEARCH

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.) [X] Other: Tunnel Repair

NOV 15 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Development Type:

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

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

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

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

Predominantly Public

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

Please see attached.

Note: The State Clearinghouse will assign identification numbers for all new projects. If a SCH number already exists for a project (e.g. Notice of Preparation or previous draft document) please fill in.

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 checked="" 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 #10 | <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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region #4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input checked="" 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 7/17/2019 Ending Date 8/15/2019

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: <u>AECOM</u>	Applicant: <u>San Francisco Public Utilities Commission</u>
Address: <u>300 California Street, Suite 600</u>	Address: <u>525 Golden Gate Avenue, 6th Floor</u>
City/State/Zip: <u>San Francisco, CA 94104</u>	City/State/Zip: <u>San Francisco, CA 94102</u>
Contact: <u>Rodney Jeung</u>	Phone: <u>(415) 554-3238</u>
Phone: <u>(415) 547-2598</u>	

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: _____

Date: 11-19-19

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

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