

California Department of Transportation

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February 18, 2022

1-LAK-175-11.954/19.833
Cobb Area Water District Consol.
SCH# 2020059041

Mr. Benjamin Murphy, General Manager
Cobb Area Water District
P.O. Box 284
Cobb, CA 95426



Dear Mr. Murphy:

Thank you for giving Caltrans the opportunity to comment on the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the second phase of the Cobb Area Water District Consolidation Improvements Project. The project proposes water system infrastructure improvements to bring the existing water system up to current standards. The project will involve the installation of water lines, mains, hydrants, associated infrastructure and work within State Route (SR) 175 right of way. The project is located in the greater Cobb area on both sides of SR 175. We have the following comments:

New or replacement facilities or devices higher than four (4) inches above the surrounding ground surface are considered fixed objects and may not be placed within the Clear Recovery Zone (CRZ) of SR 175. The CRZ extends up to 20 feet from the Edge of Travelled Way (ETW), also referred to as "fog line" or "shoulder stripe." Any work within, or from, Caltrans right of way, will require an Encroachment Permit from Caltrans.

An engineered plan will be required for any encroachments constructed within State right of way.

It appears that the project is proposing to construct new transverse and longitudinal facilities within State right of way. These facilities have specific requirements when placed within Caltrans right of way. Please refer to Chapters 400 and 600 of the Encroachment Permits Manual regarding additional information regarding documentation for environmental requirements and utility permits with the permit application submittal. The Permits Manual is available online: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/ep-manual>.

Mr. Benjamin Murphy, General Manager

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Prior to application submittal, a pre-submittal meeting is required. Please contact the Ukiah Caltrans Permits Office at 707-463-4743 to set up the meeting. For more information regarding encroachment permits and how to apply for them, please refer to the following website: <<https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep>>.

The fee for the encroachment permits have yet to be determined. Permits issued to the water district are fee exempt, but a fee will be required for the double permit prior to construction. A deposit amount and decision for a performance bond will be determined at the time of application.

In addition to the project/site specific encroachment permit from Caltrans, the existing water system will need a separate and current annual maintenance permit in order to maintain and make emergency repairs on the portion of the systems that lies within Caltrans right of way.

Feel free to contact me with questions or for further assistance at (707) 684-6879 or by email at: <jesse.robertson@dot.ca.gov>.

Sincerely,

Jesse G. Robertson

Jesse Robertson
Transportation Planning
Caltrans District 1

c: Heidi Quintrell, Chief, Caltrans District 1 Encroachment Permits Office