

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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(916) 653-5791



July, 24 2020

7/24/2020

Mr. Ryan Leonard
City of Hesperia
9700 Seventh Ave.
Hesperia, California 92345
leonard@cityofhesperia.us

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Jul 24 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

SCH# 2020069036, Notice of Preparation and Initial Study (NOP/IS) for the United States Cold Storage Hesperia in San Bernardino County

Dear Mr. Leonard:

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Division of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) staff has reviewed the City of Hesperia's (City) NOP/IS for the proposed United States Cold Storage Hesperia project and has the following comments.

Project Description

The proposed project is a cold storage warehouse facility with truck parking on 78.7 acres in the city of Hesperia. The proposed project includes a 3-acre at-grade stormwater retention basin on the northeast corner of the site to capture and treat storm water.

Specific CommentsSection 1.1 Project Overview

The description of the project location includes the land to the south, east and north of the proposed project. It does not include a description of the land to the west. Based on the preliminary figures for the project, it appears the Oro Grande Wash (Wash) may be to the west of the proposed project, and the California Aqueduct adjacent to and northwest of the project. Figure two (project vicinity) does not identify the California Aqueduct, the Wash nor any designated storm water discharge areas in the vicinity of the project.

Please add to the description and the vicinity figure the location of: the Oro Grande Watershed boundaries; the Wash channel; the California Aqueduct; the proposed project's retention basin, and the location of all existing retention basins and stormwater discharge locations in the proposed project region. To assist you, attached is a map of facilities we have located in the project area which we request be included in the project overview. (attachment 1).

Section 2.3 Project Characteristics

Storm Drain and Other Utility Improvements

The proposed storm drain improvements would include an at grade surface area retention basin on the northeast corner of the site and would possibly include subsurface catch basins to capture and treat on-site stormwater at the same location. DWR requests the project include any storm drains that may exist in the project vicinity.

2.4 Project Approvals

Water is not allowed to be discharged (intentionally or otherwise) into DWR's right-of-way absent an encroachment permit (California Water Code section 12899.6 and California Code of Regulations, Title 23, sections 600-635). Based on the information in the IS, DWR may be required to issue an encroachment permit or to approve certain aspects of the proposed project. Please add DWR to the list of agencies from whom approvals may be required.

3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality

The IS indicates the proposed project has potentially significant impacts on hydrology and water quality by substantially altering the existing drainage pattern of the area. This would result in substantial erosion or siltation, substantial increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in and/or create or contribute runoff from an undeveloped and pervious site. The proposed project site overlies an adjudicated groundwater basin.

Based on the preliminary project drawings in the IS, the project may direct storm water discharges from the proposed retention basin, along the mesa on the west side of the Wash and down into the Wash near the DWR culvert under the California Aqueduct at Milepost 394.5. This may impact the functioning of the California Aqueduct. Of particular concern is the elevation change between the proposed detention basin down to the inlet of the DWR culvert, which is approximately 80 feet, based on Google Earth imagery.

Considering the basin does not appear to be a percolation basin, project runoff and discharge water that would flow into the Wash may compromise the California Aqueduct. Because of the potential significant impacts to the California Aqueduct, project runoff and discharge cannot enter the Wash. The proposed project's runoff and discharge water must flow out of the basin into another location. DWR requests the potentially significant impacts to water quality and drainage patterns include potential impacts to the California Aqueduct.

In order to adequately address the potential impacts of the proposed stormwater detention basin on California, DWR requests the following information be included in the EIR:

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1. The hydrology reports relied upon for the hydrology and water quality analysis.
2. The criteria used in the stormwater detention basin's design plans, including total capacity and calculations. This information would be required to demonstrate compliance with DWR's minimum standards when an encroachment permit is required.
3. A description of the proposed stormwater detention basin which includes whether the basin design would be a percolation basin or would require water to flow from the basin into another location. If the design would require water to flow to another location, include a description of the water discharge flow and potential impacts associated with that discharge, specifically potential impacts to the CA.
4. An emergency water removal contingency plan for the stormwater detention basin included in the BMPs.
5. A study of the required maintenance for the proper functioning of the proposed retention basin, a maintenance plan for the retention basin, and the agency responsible for maintaining or monitoring compliance with the proposed retention basin maintenance plan.

DWR suggests that the City consult with DWR at the earliest stage of the project as possible to address potential impact to the State Water Project.

For the encroachment permit process, City should coordinate with:

Delia Grijalva
Senior Right-of-Way Agent
Division of Engineering
Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street, Room 425
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 657-4400

Please provide DWR with a copy of any project documents when available by mail to:

Kristen Greenacre
State Water Project Right-Of-Way Management Section
Division of Operations and Maintenance
Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1620
Sacramento, California 95814

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 653-6840, or nancy.finch@water.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Nancy Finch

Nancy Finch
Senior Attorney

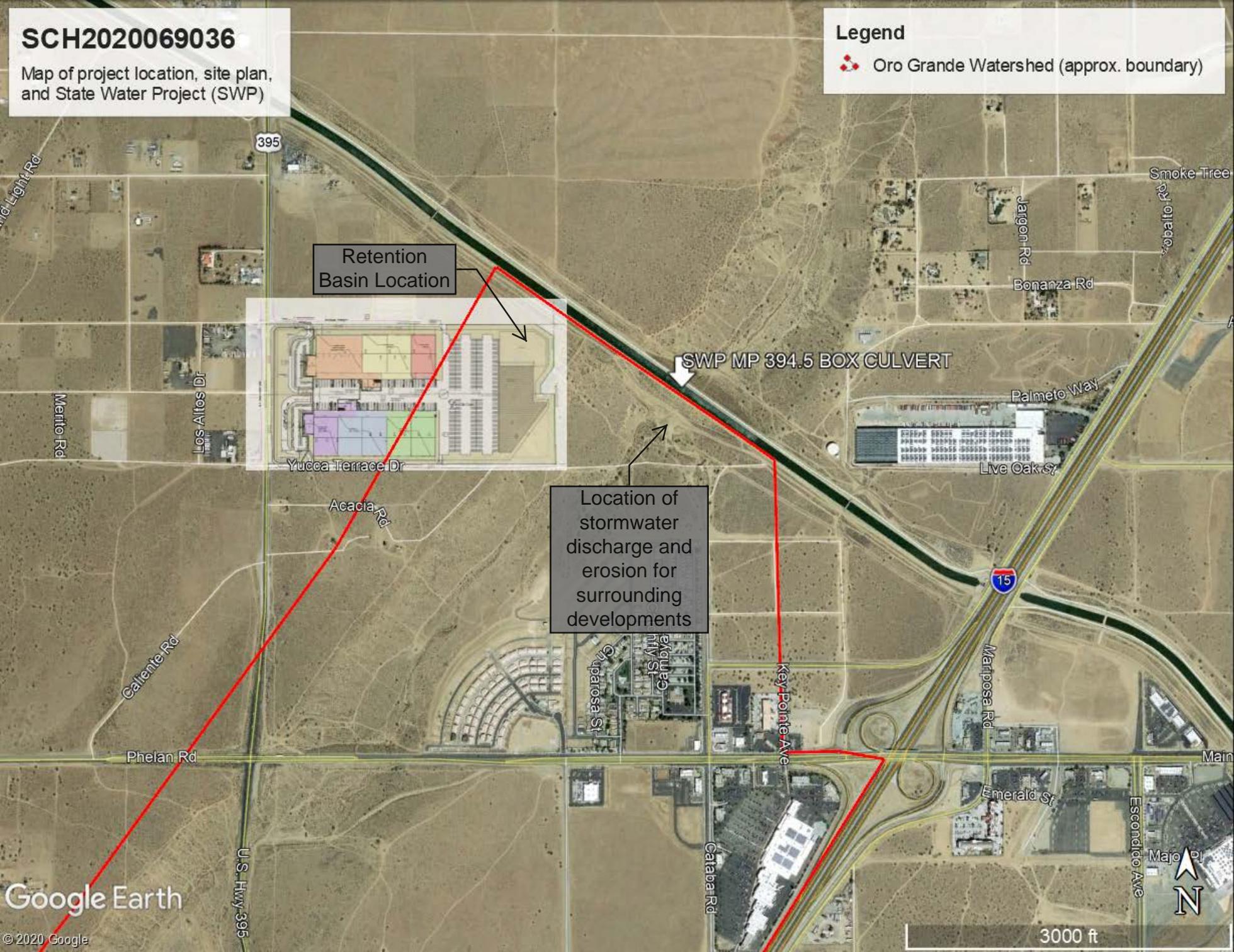
enclosure

SCH2020069036

Map of project location, site plan, and State Water Project (SWP)

Legend

 Oro Grande Watershed (approx. boundary)



Retention Basin Location



SWP MP 394.5 BOX CULVERT

Location of stormwater discharge and erosion for surrounding developments