

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal**Form F**

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: _____

Project Title: 1,2,3-TCP and Nitrate Mitigation ProjectLead Agency: Mettler County Water DistrictContact Name: Regina K. HouchinEmail: Rhouchin@agcenteraccounting.comPhone Number: (661) 858-0302Project Location: Mettler, CA Kern County
City *County*

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

Please see attached Project Description.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

Please see attached MMRP.

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

No known areas of controversy.

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

No known trustee agencies for the project.

Description of Project

District Background and Purpose

Mettler County Water District (District) supplies drinking water to approximately 40 commercial and residential service connections. The water system is supplied by two active groundwater wells (Wells 3 and 4). Nitrate and the synthetic organic contaminant 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP) have been detected at levels higher than their respective maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) at Well 4. The District is currently under State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) compliance orders for both TCP and nitrate for Well 4. The purpose of this project is to mitigate the TCP and nitrate contamination and bring the water system into compliance with both standards.

Wells 3 and 4 are the only water sources supplying the District. Both wells are located on the north side of Lupin street. Well 4 is situated approximately 570 feet east of Well 3. Well depths to the lowest screened/gravel packed section for Wells 3 and 4 are approximately 650 and 550 feet respectively. Both wells include concrete seals above the screened intervals. The well capacity for each well is reported by the contract water system operator (Golden Empire Water) to be approximately 400 gpm. Well 3 is equipped with a submersible pump, a 2,000-gallon hydropneumatic tank, a sodium hypochlorite feed system, and a 125,000-gallon at-grade bolted steel storage tank. Three booster pumps pump water from the storage tank into the hydropneumatic tank that supplies the distribution system. Well 4 is equipped with a submersible pump, a sodium hypochlorite feed system, and a hydropneumatic tank that supplies water directly into the distribution system. Both well sites are enclosed by chain-link fences. The existing electrical service is currently limited to operating only one well at a time. Part of the project is to upgrade the electrical service to allow both wells to operate simultaneously.

1,2,3, TCP: 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP) is an exclusively man-made synthetic organic chemical and a carcinogen. TCP was used as a component in agricultural soil fumigants applied over large areas of the Central Valley, including Kern County. TCP is heavier than water, very slow to biodegrade naturally, and is sparingly volatile – all characteristics that make it persistent in the groundwater and difficult to treat.

In August 2009, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) established a California Public Health Goal (PHG) for TCP of 0.0007 µg/L (0.7 parts per trillion) based on carcinogenicity. This is the second lowest California PHG among all drinking water contaminants. On December 14, 2017 DDW adopted a maximum contaminant level for TCP of 5 parts per trillion (ppt), which is equal to the current detection limit for purposes of reporting (DLR). The MCL has now gone into effect and the District is under a TCP compliance order for Well 4.

Nitrate is a regulated drinking water contaminant with a PHG and MCL of 10 mg/L reported as nitrogen (N) or 45 mg/L reported as nitrate (NO₃). Nitrate occurrence is associated with erosion of natural deposits, fertilizer production and application, and animal and human waste. The District is under a nitrate compliance order for Well 4.

Project Background and Description

Provost & Pritchard prepared a technical memorandum titled “Mettler CWD 1,2,3-Trichloropropane and Nitrate Mitigation Feasibility Study” to define design treatment methods associated with contamination from the synthetic organic chemical (SOC) 1,2,3-trichloropropane (TCP) and nitrate at one of the community’s wells (Well 4). The Mitigation Study identified improvements required to treat the TCP with granular activated carbon (GAC) and blend the Well 4 water with Well 3 water to reduce the level of nitrate. The nitrate blending system is assumed to consist of passive, manually adjustable, flow control valves and flow meters with a nitrate analyzer to monitor performance. The project is in a developed area (truck stop and rest area). The Area of Potential Effect is approximately 18,000 sq ft including a 20 ft corridor for the new pipeline connecting the Well 4 discharge to the treatment site.

The proposed project consists of water treatment facilities at the existing Well 3 site. Specific dimensions of construction components are listed below:

- *GAC vessels (2 total): 12' diameter; 15'-0" tall; 18'x36'x2' concrete foundation*
- *Backwash supply tank: 32'-8" diameter; 16'-1" tall; 2'x3' ring wall footing*
- *Electrical service upgrade – to allow both well pumps to operate simultaneously*
- *Approx. piping:*
 - *4" pipe – 100'*
 - *6" pipe – 500'*
 - *8" pipe – 250'*
 - *12" pipe – 80'*
- *Reclaim pump: 40 gpm pump on 6' x 4' concrete pad*
- *Backwash Supply Pump: 1,500 gpm on 6' x 4' concrete pad*
- *Chain link fence: 250 LF; and 30' double access gate*
- *Site improvements area: ≈ 7,000 sf*
- *Nuisance Water Pond: 25ft x50ft (20,000 gal)*

Chapter 4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

This Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) has been formulated based upon the findings of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the Mettler County Water District Well 4 TCP and Nitrate Mitigation Project (Project) in the unincorporated community of Mettler in southern Kern County. The MMRP lists mitigation measures recommended in the IS/MND for the Project and identifies monitoring and reporting requirements.

Table 4-1 presents the mitigation measures identified for the proposed Project. Each mitigation measure is numbered with a symbol indicating the topical section to which it pertains, a hyphen, and the impact number. For example, AIR-2 would be the second mitigation measure identified in the Air Quality analysis of the IS/MND.

The first column of **Table 4-1** identifies the mitigation measure. The second column, entitled “When Monitoring is to Occur,” identifies the time the mitigation measure should be initiated. The third column, “Frequency of Monitoring,” identifies the frequency of the monitoring of the mitigation measure. The fourth column, “Agency Responsible for Monitoring,” names the party ultimately responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measure is implemented. The last columns will be used by the District to ensure that individual mitigation measures have been complied with and monitored.

Table 4-1. Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

| Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program | | | | | |
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| Mitigation Measure/Condition of Approval | When Monitoring is to Occur | Frequency of Monitoring | Agency Responsible for Monitoring | Method to Verify Compliance | Verification of Compliance |
| Biological Resources | | | | | |
| Mitigation Measure BIO-1a: Avoidance of Nesting Bird Season | | | | | |
| The Project's construction activities shall occur, if feasible, between September 16 and January 31 (outside of nesting bird season) in an effort to avoid impacts to nesting birds. | During construction activities | Daily, during construction activities | MCWD | | |
| Mitigation Measure BIO-1b: Pre-Construction Nesting Bird Survey | | | | | |
| If activities must occur within nesting bird season (February 1 to September 15), a qualified biologist shall conduct pre-construction surveys for active nests within 30 days prior to the start of construction. The survey shall include the proposed work area and surrounding lands within 0.5 mile. If no active nests are observed, no further mitigation is required. Raptor nests are considered "active" upon the nest-building stage. | Within 30 days prior to the start of work performed from February 1 to September 15 | Once | MCWD | | |
| Mitigation Measure BIO-1c: Establish Nest Buffers | | | | | |
| On discovery of any active nests near work areas, the biologist shall determine appropriate construction setback distances based on applicable CDFW and/or USFWS guidelines and/or the biology of the species in question. Construction buffers shall be identified with flagging, fencing, or other easily visible means, and shall be maintained until the biologist has determined that the nestlings have fledged. | On discovery of active nests | Once, per nest, or more frequently as determined by biologist | MCWD | | |
| Cultural Resources | | | | | |
| Mitigation Measure CUL-1: Archaeological Resources | | | | | |
| In the event that archaeological resources are encountered at any time during development or ground-moving activities within the entire project area, all work in the vicinity of the find shall halt until a qualified archaeologist can assess the discovery. The District shall implement all recommendations of the archaeologist necessary to avoid or reduce to a less than significant level potential impacts to cultural resource. Appropriate actions could include a Data Recovery Plan or preservation in place. | In the event archaeological resources are uncovered | During excavation | MCWD | | |
| Mitigation Measure CUL-2: Human Remains | | | | | |
| If human remains are uncovered, or in any other case when human remains are discovered during construction, the Kern County Coroner is to be notified to arrange proper treatment and disposition. If the remains are identified—on the basis of archaeological context, age, cultural associations, or biological traits—as those of a Native American, California Health and Safety Code 7050.5 and Public Resource Code 5097.98 require that the coroner notify the NAHC within 24 hours of discovery. The NAHC will then identify the Most Likely Descendent who will determine the manner in which the remains are treated. | In the event human remains are uncovered | During excavation | MCWD | | |