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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: Six-Month Operational Test of Well TW-E at Owens Lake

Lead Agency: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

Contact Name: James R. Howe

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Project Location: Owens Lake (Nearest City: Lone Pine) Inyo

City *County*

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

LADWP proposes to conduct a 6-month operational test of TW-E, located in the northern portion of Owens Lake in Inyo County. Construction of TW-E was completed in 2018. The Proposed Project includes equipping TW-E with a pump, conducting an operational test for 6 months at a steady pumping rate, and implementing a monitoring and data collection program. No earthwork or land modifications would be required for implementation of the Proposed Project. To gather necessary hydrogeologic information, TW-E would be pumped continuously at an average rate of 3 cubic feet per second (cfs) (approximately 1,350 gallons per minute) for a period of 6 months. The duration of the test was selected to mimic the duration that potential future pumping for dust mitigation would occur and when the vegetation is dormant. Pumping TW-E at 3 cfs for 6 months was simulated by the Owens Lake Groundwater Model. Based on the model forecasted aerial extent of potential drawdown at groundwater-dependent locations, 3 cfs for 6 months was identified as a pumping rate that could provide the data necessary to meet project goals while being conservatively protective of groundwater-dependent resources such as wildlife, vegetation, and non-LADWP wells.

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

The project would have no impacts or less-than-significant impacts for all environmental topics, including less-than-significant impacts on Biological Resources, Hydrology and Water Quality. No mitigation measures are proposed.

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

The proposed operational test has an extensive monitoring plan that includes data collection before, during and after the test. The monitoring plan was made available to regulatory agencies and interested stakeholders. Comments on the monitoring plan focused on monitoring locations, number of monitoring stations, and trigger levels established for the operational test for protection of groundwater-dependent resources. The monitoring plan was revised based on stakeholder comments.

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

- California State Lands Commission
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board