

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: East County Advanced Water Purification Project

Lead Agency: East County Advanced Water Purification Joint Powers Authority

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Project Location: City of Santee and City of San Diego, San Diego County
City *County*

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

See attached.

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

See attached.

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

N/A

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

City of San Diego, City of Santee, County of San Diego, California Department of Conservation, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Transportation, State Water Resources Control Board, Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Project Description

Project Background

The Project is a partnership between the Padre Dam Municipal Water District (District), Helix Water District, County of San Diego, and City of El Cajon for the purpose of creating a new local, sustainable, and drought-proof water supply using state-of-the-art technology. The District previously adopted the Project MND (SCH No. 2018091029), approved a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), and approved the Project in 2018. In February 2020, the East County Advanced Water Purification (AWP) Joint Powers Authority (JPA) approved a resolution considering the Project Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), adopting the approved MMRP and approving the Project. The JPA is now implementing the Project in east San Diego County. The approved Project will recycle East San Diego County's wastewater locally, purify the water at an Advanced Water Treatment Plant, and transport the purified water to Lake Jennings for surface water augmentation. The Project is an element of the Comprehensive Facilities Master Plan approved by the District through the 2017 Program Environmental Impact Report. The District is a member of the JPA and the Administrator of the Project. The JPA is the CEQA lead agency for the Project.

The Project will capture and treat approximately 15 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater generated within the East County area to produce an annual average of approximately 11.5 mgd of new local drinking water supply. Byproducts from the Project's solids handling and AWP facilities will include brine and centrate, collectively referred to as residuals. The approved Project includes a residuals bypass system that will convey brine from the AWP facility, and centrate from the solids dewatering process of the solids handling facility, to an existing regional sewage pipeline (the gravity line) owned and operated by the City of San Diego for treatment and disposal.

Project Modifications

In coordination with the City of San Diego, the JPA is currently evaluating a modification of the approved Project to construct and operate a regional brine line (RBL) to convey the residuals generated by the Project around the City of San Diego's Pure Water Program facilities. In lieu of discharging the residuals into the existing gravity line as described in the previously approved Project, the RBL would consist of a pipeline built within the existing East Mission Gorge Force Main (EMGFM) pipeline and extending from the existing East Mission Gorge Pump Station (EMGPS) to the City of San Diego's South Mission Valley Trunk Sewer. The JPA is also evaluating other minor modifications to the approved Project to avoid existing utilities, avoid rocks and hard surfaces, minimize impacts to sensitive biological resources, accommodate alternative construction methodologies, and address new information. The Subsequent MND evaluates the environmental impacts of the Project modifications under consideration by the JPA.

Potentially Significant Effects and Mitigation

The Project modifications would result in potential impacts in the following issue areas: aesthetics; air quality; biological resources; cultural resources; geology and soils; hazards and hazardous materials; hydrology and water quality; land use and planning; noise; recreation; transportation; tribal cultural resources; utilities and service systems; and wildfire.

The following mitigation measures would be incorporated as part of the project and would reduce potentially significant impacts to a less-than-significant level: CFMP Aes-1, Construction Visual Disturbance Minimization; CFMP Aes-4, Shielding for Security Lighting; CFMP Air-1, Site-Specific Air Quality Analysis Related to Blasting; CFMP Bio-1F, Avoidance of Nesting Birds and Raptors; CFMP Bio-1H, Orange Construction Fencing and Construction Monitoring; CFMP Bio-1K, Contractor Training; CFMP Bio-2A, Compensatory Mitigation for Impacts to Sensitive Natural Communities; CFMP Bio-3B, Regulatory Permitting; CFMP Bio-3C, Compensatory Mitigation for Impacts to Jurisdictional Resources; ECAWP Bio-1, Avoidance of Rare Plants; ECAWP Bio-8, Hermes Copper Avoidance, Minimization, and Compensatory Mitigation; ECAWP Bio-9, Avoidance of Rare Plants in the City of San Diego; ECAWP Bio-10, Avoidance of Coastal California Gnatcatcher in the City of San Diego; ECAWP Bio-11, Biological Construction Monitoring in the City of San Diego; ECAWP Bio-12, USFWS and CDFW Consultation and Conservation Measures; ECAWP Bio-13, Avoidance of Least Bell's Vireo in the City of San Diego; ECAWP Bio-14, Avoidance of Nesting Birds and Raptors in the City of San Diego; ECAWP Cul-2, Construction Monitoring and Recovery of Cultural Resources; ECAWP Cul-3, Construction Monitoring and Recovery of Cultural Resources within the City of San Diego; CFMP Geo-1, Conduct Site-specific Geotechnical Investigation; CFMP Pal-1, Paleontological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Plan; CFMP Haz-1, Sewage Pump Station Safety Features; CFMP Haz-3, Fire Safety Plan; ECAWP Haz-1, Health and Safety Plan for Handling of Contaminated Soils; CFMP Hyd-1, Conduct Site-Specific Water Quality Investigations; CFMP Hyd-2, Conduct Site-Specific Hydrologic Investigation; CFMP Noi-3, Construction Vibration Control Measures; CFMP Noi-4, Construction Noise Limits; CFMP Noi-5, Construction Noise Reduction Measures; ECAWP Noi-5, Trenching, Jack and Bore, and Horizontal Directional Drilling Noise Reduction Measures; ECAWP Noi-6, Rock Crushing Noise Reduction Measures; ECAWP Noi-7, Lake Jennings Construction Traffic Plan; ECAWP Noi-8, Mission Valley Lift Station Operation Noise Attenuation; ECAWP Tra-1, Traffic Management Plan.