

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF TRANSIT AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

June 14, 2022

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STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Jacqueline Zipkin, General Manager
East Bay Dischargers Authority
2651 Grant Avenue
San Lorenzo, CA 94580-1841

Re: Cargill Mixed Sea Salts Processing and Brine Discharge Project – Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Jacqueline Zipkin,

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for this project. We are committed to ensuring that impacts to the State's multimodal transportation system and to our natural environment are identified and mitigated to support a safe, sustainable, integrated and efficient transportation system. The following comments are based on our review of the May 2022 NOP.

Project Understanding

The proposed project would involve construction of new pipelines and pumping facilities within Cargill's Solar Salt Facility and construction of approximately 16 miles of new underground pipeline. The proposed pipeline alignment would cross State Route (SR)-92 and SR-84.

Hydrology

Any floodplain impacts must be documented and mitigated. Any additional floodplain impacts on existing adjacent properties must be explained. Provide a floodplain analysis report and drainage report detailing assumptions and calculations used in the design of the drainage system.

Biological Resources

Provide the proposed jacking and receiving pit locations where the proposed pipeline alignments cross SR-92 and SR-84 within Caltrans' Right-of-Way (ROW) for the Office of Biological Sciences and Permits, Biology Branch, to review. Caltrans should also review all crossings at locations with potential to encounter protected species and habitats.

Construction-Related Impacts

Construction work for the proposed pipeline must not disrupt the traffic operations of both SR-92 and SR-84. The risk of pipe failures during an earthquake that may potentially impact the State highway traffic operations should be considered and discussed. Mitigation for significant impacts due to construction and noise should be identified. Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, visit: <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/transportation-permits>

Potential impacts to Caltrans' ROW from project-related temporary access points should be analyzed. If an access from within Caltrans' ROW is needed for maintenance, any lane closures needed to perform the maintenance would be allowed only during periods in which traffic impacts are minimized.

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Lead Agency

As the Lead Agency, the East Bay Dischargers Authority is responsible for all project mitigation, including any needed improvements to the STN. The project's fair share contribution, financing, scheduling, implementation responsibilities and lead agency monitoring should be fully discussed for all proposed mitigation measures.

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet American Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Encroachment Permit

Please be advised that any permanent work or temporary traffic control that encroaches onto Caltrans' ROW requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit. As part of the encroachment permit submittal process, you may be asked by the Office of Encroachment Permits to submit a completed encroachment permit application package, digital set of plans clearly delineating Caltrans' ROW, digital copy of signed,

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dated and stamped (include stamp expiration date) traffic control plans, this comment letter, your response to the comment letter, and where applicable, the following items: new or amended Maintenance Agreement (MA), approved Design Standard Decision Document (DSDD), approved encroachment exception request, and/or airspace lease agreement. Your application package may be emailed to D4Permits@dot.ca.gov.

Please note that Caltrans is in the process of implementing an online, automated, and milestone-based Caltrans Encroachment Permit System (CEPS) to replace the current permit application submittal process with a fully electronic system, including online payments. The new system is expected to be available during 2022. To obtain information about the most current encroachment permit process and to download the permit application, please visit <https://dot.ca.gov/programs/traffic-operations/ep/applications>.

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, or for future notifications and requests for review of new projects, please email LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



MARK LEONG
District Branch Chief
Local Development Review

c: State Clearinghouse