

Eastern Municipal Water District

2270 Trumble Road

P.O. Box 8300

Perris, CA 92572-8300



Notice of Preparation

Date: July 25, 2022
To: State Clearinghouse; Responsible and Trustee Agencies; and Other Interested Parties
Subject: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report
Project: EM-11 Transmission Pipeline and Pump Station Project
Lead Agency: Eastern Municipal Water District

Eastern Municipal Water District (District) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed EM-11 Transmission Pipeline and Pump Station Project (Project). The District is serving as Lead Agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The District invites written comments on the scope of the environmental analysis and identification of potential environmental issues to be included in the EIR.

Notice of Preparation: This Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been sent to the Office of Planning and Research, Responsible and Trustee agencies, organizations, and interested parties. The purpose of the NOP is to inform recipients that the District is beginning preparation of an EIR and to solicit information that will be helpful in the environmental review process. This notice includes information on how to provide comments to the District and a description of the Project.

Comments: The District is requesting input from CEQA Responsible and Trustee agencies, other public agencies with jurisdiction by law over resources potentially affected by the proposed Project, and public input regarding the scope and content of environmental information to be included in the EIR. Agency responses should identify the issues to be considered in the EIR, including significant environmental issues, alternatives, mitigation measures, and whether the responding agency will be a responsible or trustee agency, and the basis for that determination. Due to the limits mandated by State law, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but postmarked within 30 days from receipt of this notice, or no later than August 23, 2022. Please send your comments to:

Eastern Municipal Water District
Attn: Joseph Broadhead
2270 Trumble Road
Perris, CA 92570

Location of the Proposed Project: The proposed Project would be located within unincorporated areas of unincorporated Riverside County (Figure 1, Regional Vicinity, and Figure 2, Project Alignment). The EM-11 transmission pipeline would extend in a north-northwest direction approximately 10-12 miles through the southern Perris Valley area. The proposed pump station and service connection are near to the intersection of Auld Road and Washington Street.

Overview of the Proposed Project: The District is proposing the EM-11 Project to assist in expansion of its treated water supply portfolio to meet demands resulting from long-term projected growth. The Project includes three main components: (1) a new service connection (also referred to as a turnout) to receive treated water deliveries from The Metropolitan District of California (Metropolitan) Robert A. Skinner Water Treatment Plant (WTP); (2) a

new pump station that would connect to the turnout to supply water to the District's service area; and (3) a new transmission pipeline. Collectively, these components are known as the EM-11 Project.

The Project would be constructed in phases. The first phase, which would be online by 2030, includes construction of the pump station with a capacity of 40 cubic feet per second (cfs), the turnout facility, and the 72-inch diameter pipeline segment from the turnout to Scott Road (approximately 4.9 miles long). The second phase includes extending the transmission line by 2.9 miles to Holland Road with a 66-inch diameter pipeline. The third phase, which would be operational in 2040, extends the line 2.1 miles to Simpson Road with a 54-inch pipeline. Future improvements include increasing the flow of the pump station to 80 cfs in 2045 and 140 cfs at full buildout.

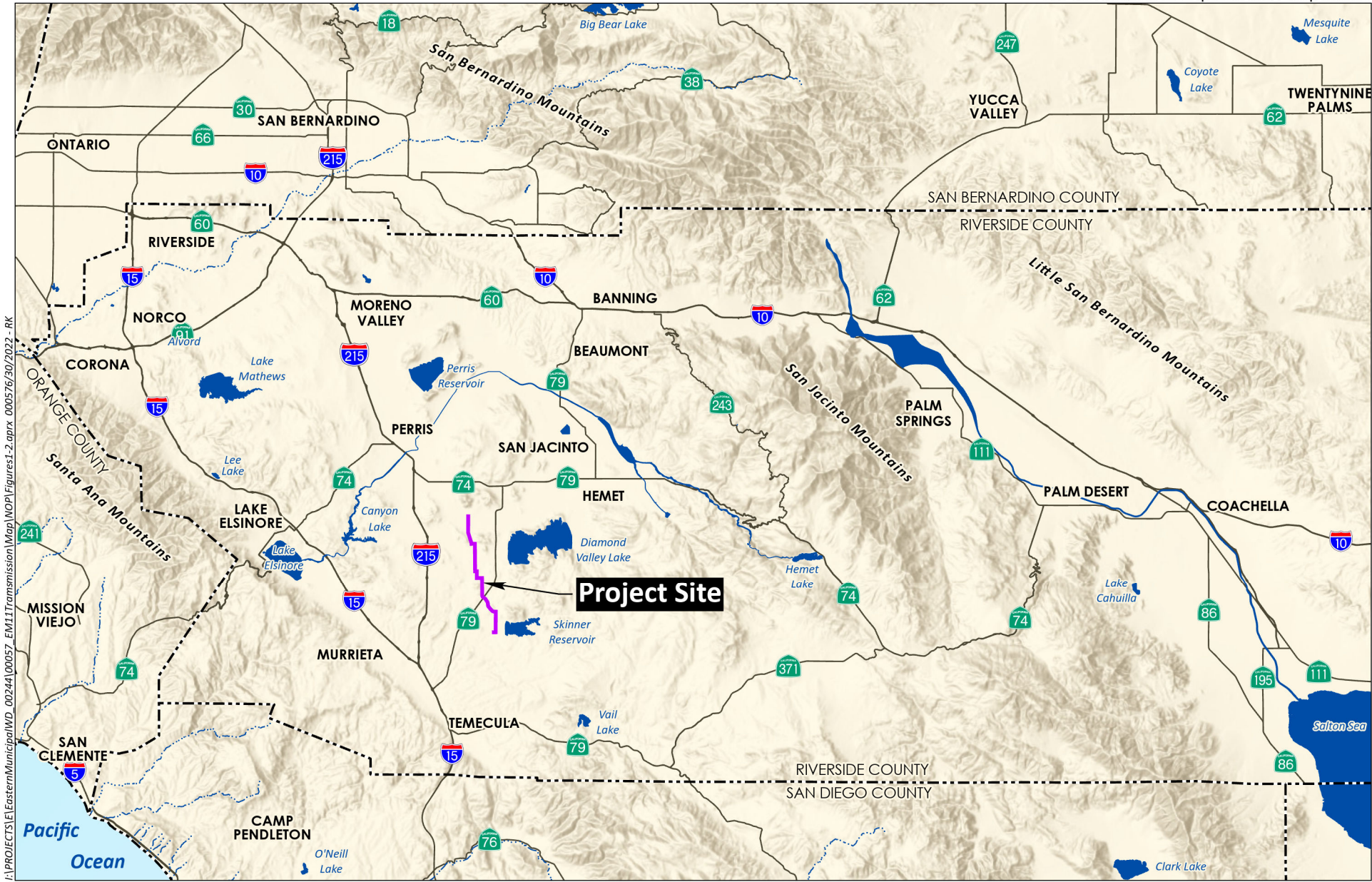
Potential Environmental Effects of the Proposed Project: In accordance with Section 15126 of the CEQA Guidelines, the EIR will assess the physical changes to the environment that would likely result from the construction and operation of the Project, including direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts and growth-inducing impacts. The EIR will provide an assessment of impacts for facilities and activities associated with Project implementation (CEQA Guidelines Section 15161). The analysis in the EIR will be programmatic in nature due to the phasing of the Project and the availability of Project-specific details.

The District has determined that the proposed Project may have the potential to significantly impact air quality, biological resources, cultural resources and tribal cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hydrology and water quality, and noise. These issue areas will be evaluated in detail in the Draft EIR. It is anticipated that all other issue areas will be discussed in the *Environmental Effects Found Not to be Significant* section of the Draft EIR. The EIR will identify mitigation measures if necessary and feasible to reduce potentially significant impacts of the proposed Project. The EIR will also discuss alternatives to the proposed Project, including the CEQA-required "No Project" alternative.

Attachments:

Figure 1: Regional Vicinity

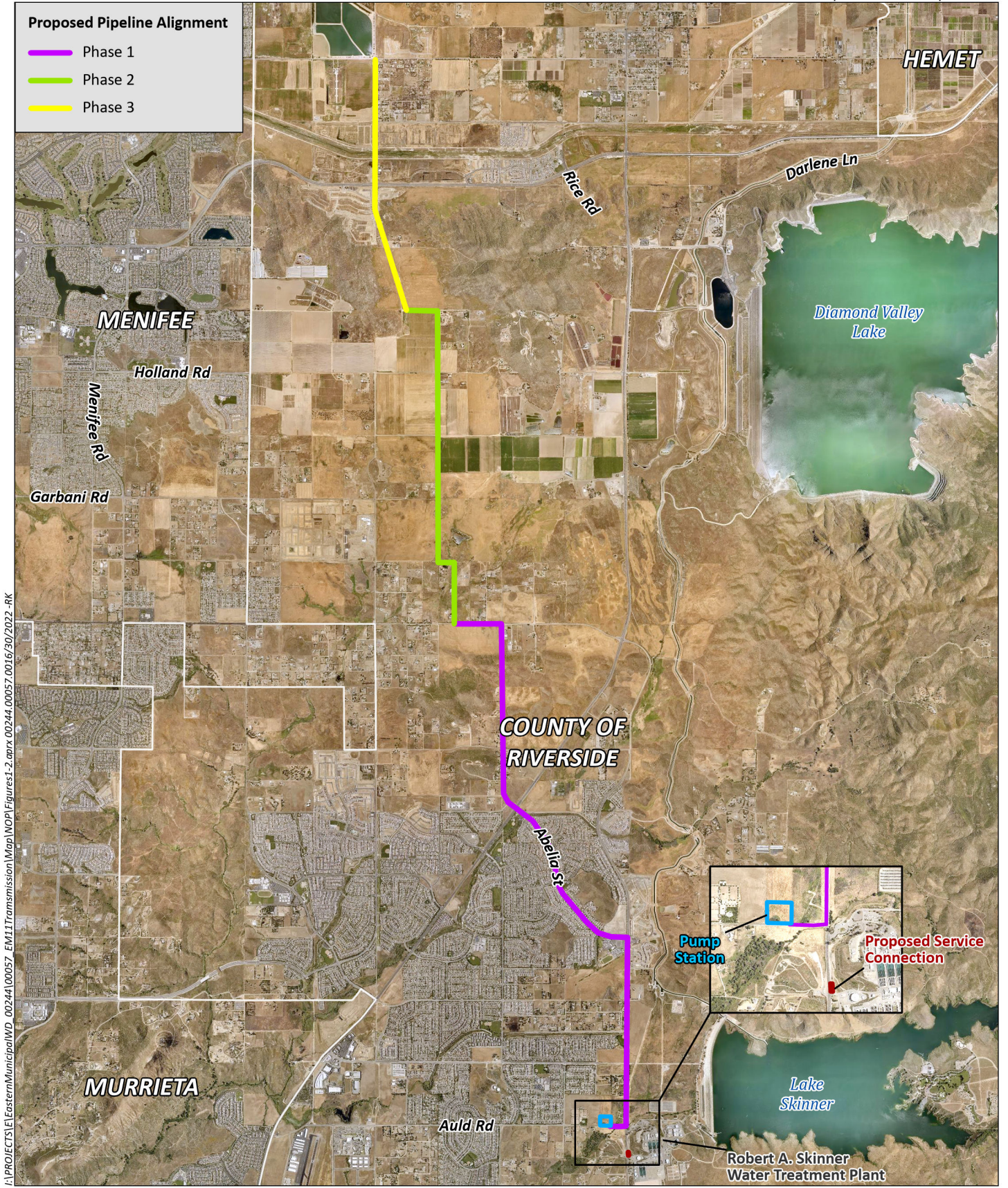
Figure 2: Project Location



F:\PROJECTS\EasternMunicipal\WD_00244\00057_EM11TransmissionMap\WOP\Figures\2.aprx 000576/30/2022 - RK



Source: Base Map Layers (ESRI, 2013)



I:\PROJECTS\LE\EasternMunicipal\WD_00244\00057_EM11Transmission\Map\NOP\Figures1-2.aprx_00244.00057.0016/30/2022 -RK



Source: Aerial (RCIT, 2020)