

Notice of Completion & Environmental Document Transmittal

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 (916) 445-0613
 For Hand Delivery/Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

SCH #

Project Title: Canyon Tunnel Project

Lead Agency: South San Joaquin Irrigation District Contact Person: Forrest Killingsworth
 Mailing Address: 11011 E. Highway 120 Phone: (209) 249-4600
 City: Manteca Zip: 95336 County: San Joaquin County

Project Location: County: Calaveras, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne County City/Nearest Community: Modesto

Cross Streets: NA Zip Code: _____

Longitude/Latitude (degrees, minutes and seconds): 37 ° 50 ' 54.53 " N / 120 ° 38 ' 51.39 " W Total Acres: See attached PD

Assessor's Parcel No.: _____ Section: _____ Twp.: _____ Range: _____ Base: _____

Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: _____ Waterways: Stanislaus River

Airports: _____ Railways: _____ Schools: _____

Document Type:

- | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--|
| CEQA: <input type="checkbox"/> NOP | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIR | NEPA: <input type="checkbox"/> NOI | Other: <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Cons | <input type="checkbox"/> Supplement/Subsequent EIR | <input type="checkbox"/> EA | <input type="checkbox"/> Final Document |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neg Dec | (Prior SCH No.) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft EIS | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mit Neg Dec | Other: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> FONSI | _____ |

Local Action Type:

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Update | <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Rezone | <input type="checkbox"/> Annexation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> Master Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Prezone | <input type="checkbox"/> Redevelopment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Plan Element | <input type="checkbox"/> Planned Unit Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Use Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Permit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Site Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Division (Subdivision, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Development Type:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential: Units _____ Acres _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation: Type _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Mining: Mineral _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Power: Type _____ MW _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial: Sq.ft. _____ Acres _____ Employees _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste Treatment: Type _____ MGD _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste: Type _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational: _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Water Conveyance Tunnel</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Facilities: Type _____ MGD _____ | |

Project Issues Discussed in Document:

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetic/Visual | <input type="checkbox"/> Fiscal | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation/Parks | <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Flood Plain/Flooding | <input type="checkbox"/> Schools/Universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Land/Fire Hazard | <input type="checkbox"/> Septic Systems | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Supply/Groundwater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Archeological/Historical | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geologic/Seismic | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer Capacity | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland/Riparian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Minerals | <input type="checkbox"/> Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading | <input type="checkbox"/> Growth Inducement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Zone | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drainage/Absorption | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing Balance | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic/Hazardous | <input type="checkbox"/> Cumulative Effects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic/Jobs | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services/Facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Circulation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Tribal Cultural</u> |

Present Land Use/Zoning/General Plan Designation:

General Agriculture/Preserve, Residential Estate, Water Right of Way

Project Description: (please use a separate page if necessary)

See attached Project Description.

Reviewing Agencies Checklist

Lead Agencies may recommend State Clearinghouse distribution by marking agencies below with an "X".
If you have already sent your document to the agency please denote that with an "S".

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Resources Board | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating & Waterways, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Public School Construction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Emergency Management Agency | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Recreation, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Highway Patrol | <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticide Regulation, Department of |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Caltrans District # <u>10</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Division of Aeronautics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional WQCB # <u>5</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Valley Flood Protection Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Recycling and Recovery, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coachella Valley Mtns. Conservancy | <input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Development Comm. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coastal Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> San Gabriel & Lower L.A. Rivers & Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board | <input type="checkbox"/> San Joaquin River Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Mtns. Conservancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corrections, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delta Protection Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Clean Water Grants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> SWRCB: Water Rights |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region # <u>2</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe Regional Planning Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Agriculture, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic Substances Control, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry and Fire Protection, Department of | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Resources, Department of |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Services, Department of | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health Services, Department of | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>San Joaquin Air Pollution Control District</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Community Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Commission | |

Local Public Review Period (to be filled in by lead agency)

Starting Date January 25, 2023 Ending Date February 23, 2023

Lead Agency (Complete if applicable):

Consulting Firm: Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group Applicant: South San Joaquin Irrigation District
Address: 455 W. Fir Avenue Address: 11011 E. Highway 120
City/State/Zip: Clovis, CA 93611 City/State/Zip: Manteca, CA 95336
Contact: Briza Sholars, Environmental Project Manager Phone: (209) 249-4600
Phone: (559) 449-2700

Signature of Lead Agency Representative: *F. A. Kell* Date: 1/12/23

Authority cited: Section 21083, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 21161, Public Resources Code.

Description of Project

Project Background and Purpose

The Project consists of a new water conveyance tunnel (approximately 12,000 lineal feet, 1,000 feet hard rock and 11,000 feet soft rock) to bypass approximately 12,250 lineal feet of existing canal, referred to as the Joint Supply Canal (JSC). The purpose of the Project is to improve long-term reliability of this critical water supply system because existing canal segments along this bypass reach are extremely vulnerable to catastrophic failure, primarily due to unstable rock slopes that are present along the canyon wall above the JSC.

The JSC provides water supply for both South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) and Oakdale Irrigation District (OID). SSJID provides JSC maintenance and is the lead agency for this project. The JSC is located along the north bank of the Stanislaus River in Calaveras and Stanislaus Counties, California, near the town of Knights Ferry. Water is diverted into the JSC at Goodwin Dam; Goodwin Dam was constructed circa 1913 and was raised in 1958. Goodwin Dam is operated by the Tri-Dam Project, an agency owned jointly by SSJID and OID. The maximum design flow capacity of the existing JSC is approximately 1,250 cubic feet per second (cfs); the existing flows and annual diversion limits would not be modified as a part of this Project but would increase the reliability of supplies. Based on subsurface conditions data and evaluation of potential tunneling methods, a recommended tunnel route was selected. The Project evaluated is a tunnel intake located upstream of the dam; with a submerged intake from the existing forebay pool approximately 20 feet from the dam.

Project objectives would be as follows:

- Increase water supply reliability: The Project would increase reliability of supplies available for both SSJID and OID.
- Reduce rockfall hazard: The Project would provide rockfall protection, thus limiting/minimizing/preventing rocks, sand, gravel, trees, and other material cleanup within the canal, by redirecting flows through the tunnel thus minimizing rockfall issues/concerns.
- Increase Safety: Provide much safer working conditions for facilities maintenance personnel.

Project Description

The work would include temporary construction access, laydown, and staging areas; permanent downstream tunnel portal and tie-in to the existing canal; approximately 12,000 lineal feet of new tunnel; permanent upstream tunnel portal and tie-in to either the existing Goodwin Reservoir; and permanent access improvements leading to the existing Goodwin Dam right abutment:

The Project specifically includes the following components:

- Construction of approximately 12,000 feet tunnel; approximately 16-foot-wide by 13.8-foot-high;
- Use of existing roads paved and dirt roads to be rehabilitated where necessary;
- Rehabilitation of an existing barge landing and new barge platform:
 - Sectional barge would consist of eight pre-cast concrete segments (each 10 feet by 15 feet) with a combined 30-foot by 40-foot area, measuring 7 feet in depth, which is required for 65,000 pound of live load weight during construction;
 - Rehabilitation of the existing landing would be constructed at the same location and same footprint at the south shore of Goodwin Dam Reservoir at the current parking lot location;
 - Protective cofferdam would be used to dewater around the existing barge landing;
 - Tensioned guide cable would be secured for barge movement alignment:

- South end would be attached below the reconstructed concrete landing with rock bolts;
 - North end would be attached to the existing concrete trash rack wall; and
 - Electric winches would be used to move the barge platform back and forth.
- Improve and re-align existing livestock fences including barbed wire fencing and panel gates;
- Tunnel inlet would start on the north side of the reservoir, upstream of the dam, above the existing diversion canal and on the dry side of the forebay and trash rack;
- Installation of new control gates at the tunnel inlet;
 - The tunnel size would be approximately 16 feet in diameter
- Temporary installation of stop logs at the existing trash rack for forebay dewatering;
- Installation of a concrete cover cap over the existing forebay to provide rockfall protection;
- Existing ram pump to be abandoned;
 - Proposed vertical conduit to be drilled vertically to tunnel for upland property owner (well with steel casing, removable screen and sump at tunnel sidewall, submersible solar power pump);
- Existing canal gates at dam to remain for side-spill
- Existing canal inlet gates to be abandoned
- Tunnel Outlet would be located at the south end of the Project area at the downstream portal.
- The proposed Canyon Tunnel would bypass the existing canal for approximately 12,000 feet and tie back into the existing canal through a downstream tunnel portal.

Construction Phases are as follows and are referenced throughout the document:

1. Excavate Portal Work Area
2. Shotcrete Portal Face
3. Excavate First 916 LF D + S
4. Tunnel Excavation, Stage 1 Shotcrete
5. Stage 2 Shotcrete
6. Place Concrete Slab D+S and Invert Concrete
7. Tunnel Cleanup

Cultural Area of Potential Effect

The cultural Area of Potential Effect (APE) for ground disturbing activities is approximately 8.5 acres outlined below:

Tuolumne County

Existing Staging Area (barge landing and related improvements) = 16,560 sf = ~0.4 acres

Existing Access Road (may need to be widened) = 780 lf @ 16'w = 12,480 sf = ~0.3 acres

Stanislaus County

Existing Access Road (From Diversion Works – improvements to restore conditions following construction) = 5,481 lf @ 16'w = 87,696 sf = ~2.2 acres

Temporary Contractor Laydown Area (improve then reclaim) = ~3 acres

Calaveras County

New Barge Landing/Cap over Upstream Portal = 12,093 sf = ~0.3 acres

Existing Access Road (To Downstream Tunnel Portal and Staging Area - improvements to restore conditions following construction) = 1,508 lf @ 16'w = 24,128 sf = ~ 0.6 acres

New Downstream Tunnel Portal and Staging Area = 19,446 sf = ~ 0.5 acres

Temporary Construction Staging, Spoils Pile/Staging Area with connecting Road (improve then reclaim) = 49,285 sf = ~ 1.2 acres

Construction Schedule

Construction will occur over two to three years and consist of several phases including clearing, grading, and excavation. Equipment maintenance visits are anticipated to occur weekly.

Equipment

Construction equipment would include air compressors, all-terrain vehicles, concrete mixers, concrete pumps, concrete vibrators, electric generators, excavators, light plants, loaders, water pumps, dump/haul trucks, road header tunneling machine, various hand tools, forklift, drill rig, grout pump, concrete transit trucks, and a temporary barge to transport equipment. Temporary construction staging area would be located within the Project boundary and used for storage of materials and equipment.

Operation and Maintenance

Operation and maintenance of the facility would be consistent with current activities to maintain infrastructure. The new water conveyance tunnel and associated infrastructure would have the same intent and operational needs as the existing JSC. SSJID would be responsible for operation and maintenance of the Project. Current maintenance equipment access to the north abutment is provided through the JSC during the non-irrigation season (annually November through February). Because the bypassed segment of JSC will be abandoned and no longer available for access, future permanent access to the north abutment will be provided by the new barge.

Setting and Surrounding Land Uses

The Project is located within Calaveras, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne Counties, north of the unincorporated community of Knights Ferry, California. This area lies within the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range adjacent to the San Joaquin Valley. The topography is made up of rolling hills with elevations ranging from approximately 300 to 700 feet, with underlying rock formations of older metamorphic rock and younger volcanic flows and sandstone. The hills are made up of large oak woodland and grassland habitat. Outside of the community of Knights Ferry are residential homes and ranches on larger lot sizes.

Like most of California, the Sierra foothills experience a Mediterranean climate. Warm, dry summers are followed by cool, moist winters. Summer temperatures range between 70- and 90-degrees Fahrenheit (°F), but often exceeds 100 °F. Winter minimum temperatures are near 40 °F. The average annual precipitation is approximately 13 inches, falling mainly from October to April.