
NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

DATE: November 28, 2023
TO: Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Interested Parties
LEAD AGENCY: Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District
SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report
PROJECT: Valencia Water Reclamation Plant Middle Section Retaining Wall Ground Improvement Project
REVIEW PERIOD: November 28, 2023 through January 5, 2024

This Notice of Preparation (NOP) has been prepared to notify agencies and interested parties that the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District (SCVSD or District), as the Lead Agency, will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Valencia Water Reclamation Plant (VWRP) Middle Section Retaining Wall Ground Improvement Project (proposed project).

An Initial Study was prepared for the proposed project and is available on the District website for review at <https://www.lacsd.org/documents/other/documents-for-public-review>. As analyzed in the Initial Study, the following issue areas would result in no impact or less than significant impacts and will not require further analysis in the EIR: Aesthetics, Agricultural and Forestry Resources, Energy, Land Use, Mineral Resources, Population and Housing, Public Services, Recreation, and Utilities and Service Systems.

The EIR will address the proposed project's potential effects for all other environmental resource areas as outlined in Appendix G of the State CEQA Guidelines, which are as follows:

- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Noise
- Transportation and Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Wildfire
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project would occur along the western boundary of the VWRP which is located at 28185 The Old Road in Valencia, California. The VWRP is bounded by The Old Road on the northeast and by the Santa Clara River to the south and west (see Figure 1). A Significant Ecological Area (SEA) and conservation easement is adjacent to the site to the south and west.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: SCVSD has determined through previous studies that under a Capital Storm event, the VWRP has the potential to be exposed to erosion along approximately 1,000 feet of the middle section of the existing retaining wall and along the VWRP boundary after flooding due to scour. If the wall is undermined by scour or damaged by a significant earthquake event, VWRP facilities may be damaged or destroyed. The proposed project includes a new ground retaining wall structure to fortify the middle

section of the wall and protect the VWRP during a flood scour event and design-level earthquake. In addition, the proposed project would include updates to two existing outfall structures (Figure 1). Temporary construction work would occur along the VWRP boundary as well as an existing SEA and California Department of Fish and Wildlife easement west of the VWRP. An operations and maintenance area would be cleared around the existing SCVSD outfall easements for continued use during long-term maintenance of the outfall structures (Figure 1).

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD: SCVSD is soliciting comments from responsible and trustee agencies as well as interested parties regarding the scope and content of the environmental information to be included in the EIR. The EIR will be used by SCVSD when considering approval of the proposed project as well as any related discretionary approvals. The NOP is being circulated for a 39-day public scoping period. All comments to the NOP are due no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 5, 2024. Please include the name, mailing address, and email address of the commenter. Written comments may be submitted via the following:

Mail to: Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District
Attn.: Mandy Huffman
1955 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, CA 90601

Email: mandyhuffman@lacsdsd.org

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The NOP and Initial Study are available online at the SCVSD website (<https://www.lacsdsd.org/documents/other/documents-for-public-review>). A hardcopy of the NOP and Initial Study are available for review at the City of Santa Clarita Valencia Branch Library at 23743 West Valencia Boulevard, Santa Clarita, CA 91355.

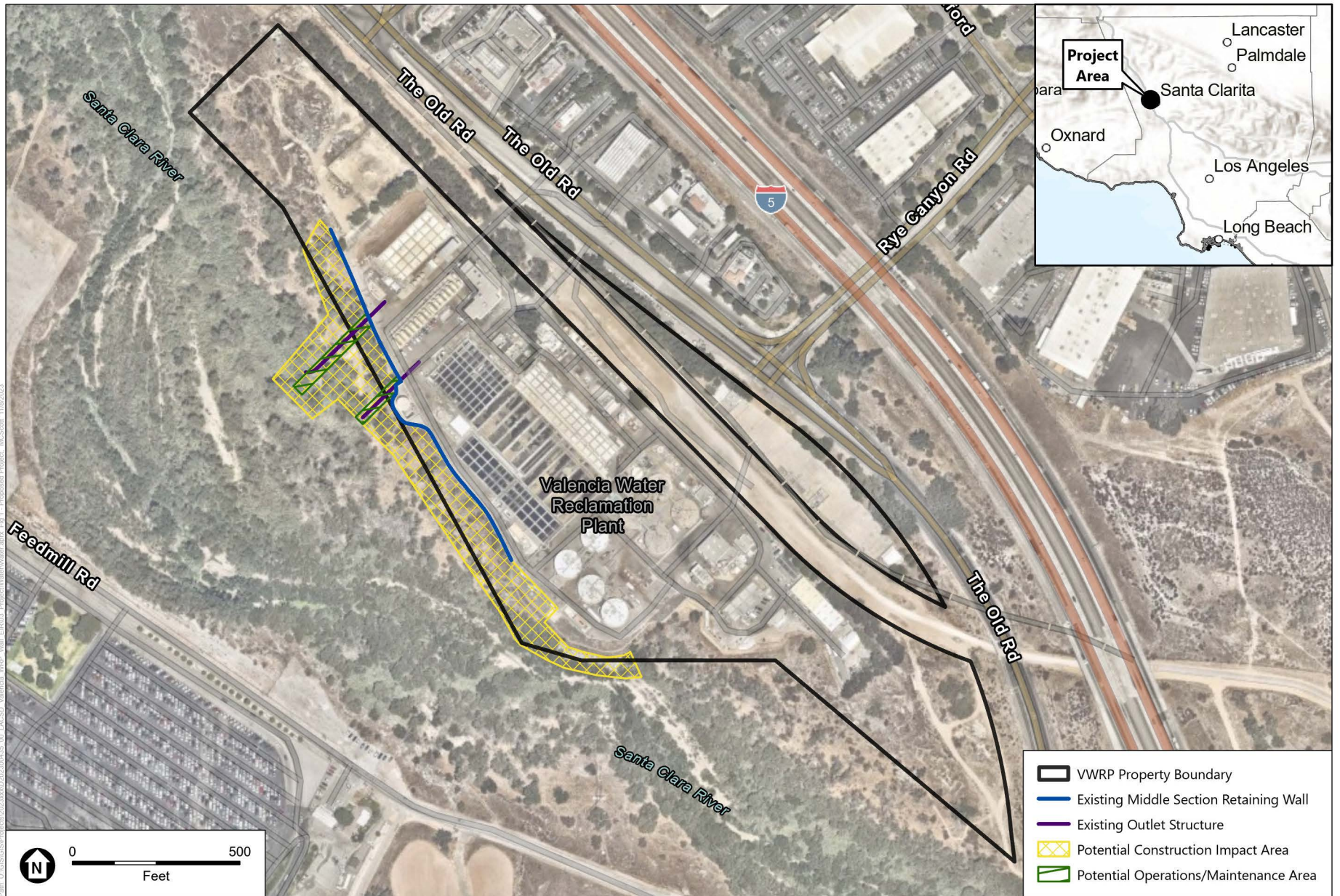
SCOPING MEETING: Two scoping meetings will be held on December 12, 2023. One virtual public meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom and a second public meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. in person at The Centre. Both public scoping meetings will include a brief presentation, providing an overview of the proposed project and the CEQA process. Verbal comments may be made during the meetings.

Virtual Scoping Meeting Details

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| Date: | December 12, 2023 |
| Start Time: | 10:00 a.m. |
| Zoom: | https://bit.ly/SCVSDScopingMtg |
| Telephone Dial-in: | 888-788-0099 |
| Meeting ID: | 852 7072 8111 |

In-Person Scoping Meeting Details

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| Date: | December 12, 2023 |
| Start Time: | 6:00 p.m. |
| Location: | The Centre—Oak Room 20880 Centre Pointe Parkway Santa Clarita, CA 91351 |



SOURCE: ESA, 2023

VWRP Middle Section Retaining Wall Ground Improvement Project

Figure 1
Proposed Project

