



**NEPA/CEQA RE-VALIDATION FORM**

<b>DIST-CO-RTE:</b> 06-KER-46
<b>PM/PM:</b> 29.7/31.9 or 26.5/31.8
<b>EA or Fed-Aid Project No.:</b> 06-44255
<b>Other Project No. (specify):</b> 0612000176
<b>Project Title:</b> State Route 46 Widening - Segment 4B
<b>Environmental Approval Type:</b> CEQA: Initial Study with Negative Declaration; NEPA: Environmental Assessment with Finding of No Significant Impact
<b>Date Approved:</b> Initial Study – Negative Declaration/Environmental Assessment (May 12, 2005); Revalidation (November 19, 2018); Revalidation (May 14, 2020)
<b>Reason for Consultation (23 CFR 771.129), check one:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Project proceeding to next major federal approval <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in scope, setting, effects, mitigation measures, requirements <input type="checkbox"/> 3-year timeline (EIS only) <input type="checkbox"/> N/A (Re-Validation for CEQA only)
<b>Description of Changed Conditions:</b> <i>Briefly describe the changed conditions or new information on page 2. Append continuation sheet(s) as necessary. Include a revised Environmental Commitments Record (ECR) when applicable.</i>

**NEPA CONCLUSION - VALIDITY**

Based on an examination of the changed conditions and supporting information: (Check ONE of the three statements below, regarding the validity of the original document/determination (23 CFR 771.129). If document is no longer valid, indicate whether additional public review is warranted and whether the type of environmental document will be elevated.)

- The original environmental document or CE remains valid. No further documentation will be prepared.
- The original environmental document or CE is in need of updating; further documentation has been prepared and  is included on the continuation sheet(s) or  is attached. With this additional documentation, the original ED or CE remains valid.  
 Additional public review is warranted (23 CFR 771.111(h)(3))  Yes  No
- The original document or CE is no longer valid.  
 Additional public review is warranted (23 CFR 771.111(h)(3))  Yes  No  
 Supplemental environmental document is needed.  Yes  No  
 New environmental document is needed.  Yes  No (If "Yes," specify type: )

**CONCURRENCE WITH NEPA CONCLUSION**

I concur with the NEPA conclusion above.

<u>Richard Putler</u>	<u>9-22-2020</u>
Signature: Environmental Branch Chief	Date
<u>Milberto Bacar</u>	<u>9/24/2020</u>
Signature: Project Manager/DLAE	Date

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**CEQA CONCLUSION** (Only mandated for projects on the State Highway System.)

Based on an examination of the changed conditions and supporting information, the following conclusion has been reached regarding appropriate CEQA documentation: (*Check ONE of the five statements below, indicating whether any additional documentation will be prepared, and if so, what kind. If additional documentation is prepared, attach a copy of this signed form and any continuation sheets.*)

- Original document remains valid. No further documentation is necessary.
- Only minor technical changes or additions to the previous document are necessary.
  - An addendum has been or will be prepared and is  included on the continuation sheets or  will be attached. It need not be circulated for public review. (CEQA Guidelines, §15164)
- Changes are substantial, but only minor additions or changes are necessary to make the previous document adequate. A Supplemental environmental document will be prepared, and it will be circulated for public review. (CEQA Guidelines, §15163)
- Changes are substantial, and major revisions to the current document are necessary. A Subsequent environmental document will be prepared, and it will be circulated for public review. (CEQA Guidelines, §15162)  
(Specify type of subsequent document, e.g., Subsequent FEIR):
- The CE is no longer valid. New CE is needed.  Yes  No

**CONCURRENCE WITH CEQA CONCLUSION**

I concur with the CEQA conclusion above.

<u>Richard Putler</u>	<u>9-22-2020</u>
Signature: Environmental Branch Chief	Date
<u>Milberto Bacor</u>	<u>9/24/2020</u>
Signature: Project Manager/DLAE	Date

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### CONTINUATION SHEET(S)

Address only changes or new information since approval of the original document and only those areas that are applicable. Use the list below as section headings as they apply to the project change(s). Use as much or as little space as needed to adequately address the project change(s) and the associated impacts, minimization, avoidance and/or mitigation measures, if any.

#### **Changes in project design, e.g., scope change; a new alternative; change in project alignment.**

The May 2020 revalidation did not discuss the scope of the utility relocation, because the design was not finalized until July 2020. The project team also discovered a second open Leaking Underground Storage Tank case within the project limits.

##### *Utility Relocation:*

**Chevron:** Remove the abandoned 4-inch and 6-inch water lines located north of State Route 46 (runs east/west). An open trench will be used to remove the abandoned water lines. After the water lines have been removed, trench will be backfilled to existing grade. When the State Route 46 Widening - Segment 4B project begins construction, the contractor will coordinate with the Caltrans Resident Engineer to remove the abandoned water lines under roadways, parking lots, sidewalks, and driveways.

**Pacific Gas and Electric:** Relocate the existing overhead electrical distribution line and poles from the north side to the south side of State Route 46 (runs east/west). The overhead lines that cross State Route 46 will be addressed in the Segment 4C project.

**Southern California Gas:** Relocate an existing gas line from the south side of State Route 46 (runs east/west) to the north side of State Route 46; the relocated line would be next to the planned Caltrans right-of-way line. A segment of the gas line will also be relocated into a casing in the new California Aqueduct overcrossing.

**Frontier California, Inc:** Lower an existing fiber optic and copper line about 6 feet below existing grade. The lines will be in a 1 to 4-inch PVC casing line crossing under State Route 46 at Farnsworth Avenue. The work will lower the existing fiber optic and copper line using two bore pits that are 4 feet wide, 6 feet long, and 4 feet deep.

**Verizon:** Lower an existing fiber optic line that crosses State Route 46 (runs north/south) about 2 feet below the bottom of the retaining wall footing.

**Lost Hills Utility District (Water line relocation):** Relocate an existing 12-inch water line (runs east/west) located on the north side of State Route 46. The relocated water line will be 3 feet to the south of the new proposed right-of-way line and lowered to avoid a conflict with the drainage system. About 300 feet of pipe will be relocated into a casing in the future overcrossing at the California Aqueduct.

**Lost Hills Utility District (Sewer line relocation):** Relocate an existing sewer line from the north side to the south side of State Route 46. The relocation would occur from east of the California Aqueduct to Bruning Street. At the State Route 46/Bruning Street intersection, the relocated sewer line will tie back to the existing sewer line which crosses under State Route 46

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to the north side. The relocated sewer line will be under the future storm drains to avoid conflict.

### *Second Open Leaking Underground Storage Tank Case*

In July 2020, several monitoring wells were discovered on parcel 87989 or the former Robertson's Market (Assessor's parcel number 058-174-16-00-6). The parcel was identified as an open Leaking Underground Storage Tank Cleanup site. Even though the site was identified as an open case in the 2018 Initial Site Assessment for the project, the 2019 Hazardous Waste Disclosure Document incorrectly cleared this property to allow the department to acquire the property without any restrictions.

According to the 'Second Quarter 2020 Progress Report', the former Robertson's Market was a gas station. In January 2002, the gasoline and the diesel fuel storage tanks were removed from the site. After the tanks were removed, it was discovered that fluid had leaked into the ground and nearby groundwater. The landowner has worked with the Regional Water Quality Control Board to clean up the property. Currently, the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the landowner are monitoring the contamination levels at the property; the monitoring wells are mostly located on the northern side of the property.

### **Changes in environmental setting, e.g., new development affecting traffic or air quality.**

There have been no changes in the environmental setting.

### **Changes in environmental circumstances, e.g., a new law or regulation; change in the status of a listed species.**

There have been no changes in the environmental circumstances.

### **Changes to environmental impacts of the project, e.g., a new type of impact, or a change in the magnitude of an existing impact.**

#### *Utility Relocation:*

There are no changes to environmental impacts of the project, no new type of impact, and no change in the magnitude of an existing impact.

### *Second Open Leaking Underground Storage Tank Case*

The utility relocation work and State Route 46 Widening - Segment 4B construction may impact some of the monitoring wells. Since the monitoring wells may be impacted, on September 4, 2020, Caltrans' staff met with the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the consultant managing the monitoring wells. The Regional Water Quality Control Board agreed to remove the identified wells, but the agency needs approval from the State Water Resources Control Board to fund the removal.

### **Changes to avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures since the environmental document was approved.**

#### *Utility Relocation:*

All excavation work that is deeper than 2 feet needs to be covered or an exit ramp constructed to prevent trapping listed species. A pre-construction survey would be completed 14 days prior to ground-breaking and all workers will attend a Worker Environmental Assessment Training to

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learn how to identify listed species. With these measures incorporated from the Biological Opinion, the utility relocation would not change the impact level to biological resources.

### *Second Open Leaking Underground Storage Tank Case*

The contractors for the utility relocation and State Route 46 Widening - Segment 4B project would be notified about the contaminated parcel and ongoing discussions with the state agency to remove the monitoring wells. The contractors will prepare a health and safety plan that outlines how workers would be notified and protected during construction.

**Changes to environmental commitments since the environmental document was approved, e.g., the addition of new conditions in permits or approvals. When this applies, append a revised Environmental Commitments Record (ECR) as one of the Continuation Sheets.**

Because the environmental commitments did not change since the May 2020 revalidation was approved, the Environmental Commitments Record is not attached to this document. However, a copy of the Environmental Commitments Record can be provided upon request.