

Summary Form for Electronic Document Submittal

Form F

Lead agencies may include 15 hardcopies of this document when submitting electronic copies of Environmental Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, Mitigated Negative Declarations, or Notices of Preparation to the State Clearinghouse (SCH). The SCH also accepts other summaries, such as EIR Executive Summaries prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15123. Please include one copy of the Notice of Completion Form (NOC) with your submission and attach the summary to each electronic copy of the document.

SCH #: 2015062073

Project Title: Biosolids Digester Facilities Project: Biogas Utilization System

Lead Agency: San Francisco Planning Department

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Project Location: City and County of San Francisco
City, County

Project Description (Proposed actions, location, and/or consequences).

On March 8, 2018, the San Francisco Planning Commission certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Biosolids Digester Facilities Project (Biosolids or approved project) at the Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant (Southeast Plant), located in the southeast part of San Francisco.¹ Originally built in 1952 with major upgrades in 1982 and 1996, the Southeast Plant is the City's largest wastewater treatment facility, treating approximately 80 percent of San Francisco's sewage and stormwater flows. The approved project includes the construction and operation of a new solids treatment process, odor control, energy recovery, and associated facilities to replace outdated existing facilities with more reliable, efficient, and modern technologies. Biosolids are the recyclable solid materials removed from the wastewater during the wastewater treatment process and digesters are the major facilities used in the solids treatment process.

As discussed in the FEIR, a key objective of the approved project is the beneficial reuse of 100 percent of the digester gas generated by the Southeast Plant. To achieve this, the approved project included an energy recovery/cogeneration facility in which boilers and a turbine generator would burn the digester gas (or biogas) in turbines to convert it to heat, steam, and electricity that would then be used to operate the new biosolids facilities (called the "energy recovery system" in the FEIR). However, the SFPUC is now proposing to revise the approved project to convert the digester gas into pipeline-quality, renewable natural gas for injection into PG&E's existing natural gas pipeline, referred to hereafter as the "biogas utilization system." Consequently, the energy recovery system components would be removed from the approved project. This alternative end-use of the digester gas would result in a smaller footprint of new facilities to be constructed and simplify Southeast Plant operations.

Identify the project's significant or potentially significant effects and briefly describe any proposed mitigation measures that would reduce or avoid that effect.

The project's significant impacts and mitigation measures include the following:

Historic resources (demolition of buildings) – M-CR-1: Documentation of historic resources and interpretive display.

Archeological resources (excavation in significant prehistoric resources) – M-CR-2a: Archeological Testing, Monitoring and/or Data Recovery; M-CR-2b: Accidental Discovery of Archeological Resources

¹ San Francisco Planning Department, *Biosolids Digester Facilities Project Final Environmental Impact Report*, Planning Department Case No. 2015-000644ENV, State Clearinghouse No. 2015062073 certified March 8, 2018. Available online at: <http://tinyurl.com/BDFPFEIR>.

Noise (construction noise) – M-NO-1a : Shielding of Concrete Saw Operations; M-NO-1b: Construction Noise Control Measures at Southeast Greenhouses Staging Area

Air Quality (construction criteria air pollutant emissions) – M-AQ-1a: Construction Emissions Minimization ; M-AQ-1b : Emission Offsets.

Biological Resources (demolition of structures and trees) – M-BI-1: Protective Measures for special status bats and maternity roosts.

All impacts are mitigable to less than significant, except impacts on historic resources and air quality (because emission offsets rely upon an outside agency to implement).

If applicable, describe any of the project's areas of controversy known to the Lead Agency, including issues raised by agencies and the public.

Air quality impacts in the air pollutant exposure zone

Provide a list of the responsible or trustee agencies for the project.

Bay Area Air Quality Management District

State Water Resources Control Board

