

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A
MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION SUPPLEMENT
FOR THE SHORTCUT PIPELINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASE 3
MARCH 11, 2022
(SCH No. 2011092059)**

This is a notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) Supplement pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Shortcut Pipeline Improvement Project Phase 3 (SCPL), the proposed Project, by the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD). Phase 3 was evaluated in the original 2011 MND prepared for the SCPL project, however, CCWD is preparing this supplement to evaluate the pipeline repair plan that differs from the approach assumed previously.

The proposed Project is in north-central Contra Costa County, approximately 1.5 miles north of State Highway 4 and about 1.5 miles south of the San Joaquin/Sacramento Delta. Phase 3 improvements are centered over Lower Walnut Creek between the Marathon Refinery and the Conco Industrial development. The MND Supplement is being circulated for review from March 11, 2022 to April 11, 2022.

The SCPL owned by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) was built in 1972 and conveys untreated water from the Contra Costa Canal near Clyde to the Martinez Reservoir. The SCPL serves industrial customers as well as the City of Martinez. Following completion of Phase 2 Improvements in 2018 CCWD identified critical SCPL repairs that are needed to ensure reliable long-term water supply. Phase 2 SCPL Improvements were completed consistent with the MND adopted by the CCWD Board in December 2011 and the Reclamation approved National Environmental Policy Act Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact in 2017.

This supplemental MND evaluates proposed changes in the construction methods that are needed for Phase 3 repairs to the SCPL. Approximately 2,000 feet of twin 36-inch High-Density Polyethylene pipeline (HDPE) pipelines will be installed under Walnut Creek between Site 5 (Marathon) and Site 4 (Conco) utilizing horizontal directional drilling (HDD) construction methods. The twin 36-inch HDPE pipelines will be 60 to 80 feet below the ground surface to ensure that the new pipelines are in a layer of subsurface soil conditions that are more stable in the event of a potential seismic event.

The CCWD Board will consider adoption of the Final MND at its May 18, 2022 CCWD Board meeting that will be noticed. CCWD staff finds that the proposed Project, after mitigation, will not have a significant effect on the environment. The March 2022, Draft MND Supplement and the September 2011 IS/MND are available for public review on the District's website at www.ccwater.com/SCPL3, online at <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/Project/2011092059>, and a printed copy is available by contacting Mark Seedall at mseedall@ccwater.com. A hard copy for public review is available at the Water District Library at 1331 Concord, Ave, Concord CA 94520 and the District Administrative Building at 2411 Bisso Lane, Concord, CA 94520. Comments on the MND Supplement can be submitted to mseedall@ccwater.com or mailed to:

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