

APPENDIX

10.1 Public Scoping

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10.1.1 Notice of Preparation

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NOTICE OF PREPARATION

To: Agencies and Interested Parties
From: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
Date: November 5, 2014
Subject: Announcement of:

- 1) **Notice of Preparation** of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project
- 2) **Public Scoping Meeting** to be held on November 19, 2014; and
- 3) **NOP Scoping** Comments due by December 8, 2014.

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) will prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Clean Water Factory Project (proposed Project for CEQA purposes) in San Bernardino County, California. The EIS/EIR will be prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code [USC] Section 4321 et seq.) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code [PRC], Section 21000 et seq.; see also 14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] Sections 15220, 15222 [State CEQA Guidelines]). Reclamation will be the Federal lead agency for purposes of complying with NEPA, and SBMWD will be the local lead agency for compliance with CEQA.

PURPOSE OF THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION: The purpose of a Notice of Preparation (NOP) is to notify responsible and trustee agencies, Federal agencies involved in approving or funding a project, and interested parties that an EIS/EIR will be prepared. The NOP should provide sufficient information about the proposed project and its potential environmental impacts to allow recipients the opportunity to provide a meaningful response related to the scope and content of the EIS/EIR, including the potentially significant and significant environmental issues, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures that the responsible or trustee agency will need to have explored in the EIS/EIR (State CEQA Guidelines CCR Section 15082[a][1]).

The Project location, description, and probable environmental impacts of the proposed Project are presented below. An initial study has not been prepared because the EIS/EIR will address all issue areas and it is already known that the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment. The EIS/EIR will also include feasible mitigation measures and evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives to avoid or substantially reduce the proposed Project's significant adverse environmental impacts.

The purposes of this NOP are to:

1. Notify the appropriate parties that an EIS/EIR will be prepared for the proposed Project;
2. Briefly describe the proposed Project and the anticipated content of the EIS/EIR;
3. Announce the public scoping meeting to facilitate public input; and
4. Solicit input by from Federal, State, regional, and local agencies, and from interested organizations and individuals, regarding the content and scope of the EIS/EIR, including the alternatives to be addressed and the potentially significant environmental impacts.

1.0 Project Background and Purpose and Need

The SBMWD provides water supply and reclamation, and geothermal heating supply services to its service area, which primarily overlays the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin (Bunker Hill Basin), particularly the Bunker Hill Basin A Management Zone¹. SBMWD relies wholly on groundwater from the Bunker Hill Basin to meet its customers' water demand. Exhibit 1, *SBMWD Service Area and Groundwater Basins*, shows the extent of these features. With over 55 production wells, four (4) water treatment plants for groundwater treatment, and over 700 miles of water supply pipelines, SBMWD has invested significantly in the Bunker Hill Basin, and has a vested interest in maintaining and improving this water supply.

Due to the extended drought in California, limitations on State Water Project (SWP) supplies, the current groundwater depletion of the Bunker Hill Basin, and compliance with SBX-7,² the SBMWD faces the challenge of satisfying its anticipated water demands through innovative solutions, independent of traditional imported water supplies. To meet this challenge, SBMWD commissioned a Recycled Water Planning Investigation Report (PIR) to assess the feasibility of using recycled water to augment its water supply.

SBMWD owns and operates the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP). The SBMWD and the City of Colton are members of a Joint Powers Agency that own and operate the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX) Facility. Currently, the SBWRP treats approximately 22 million gallons per day (mgd) of raw wastewater from the City of San Bernardino, the City of Loma Linda, and the East Valley Water District to secondary standards.³ The SBWRP conveys this secondary-treated effluent to the RIX facility for tertiary⁴ treatment and then discharges it to the Santa Ana River (SAR). The City of Colton conveys an

¹ The Bunker Hill Basin is divided into water quality management zones and the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds are located in Bunker Hill Basin A Management Zone. Identification of this Management Zone is provided to show future water quality comparisons with objectives established by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

² SBX-7 requires urban water retailers to reduce per capita water demands by 10 percent by 2015 and by 20 percent by 2020, with that reduction measured against a specified per capita baseline.

³ California Code of Regulation (CCR), Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3 has two classifications of secondary treated recycled water: disinfected secondary-2.2 and disinfected secondary-23. Section 60301.220 of the CCR defines disinfected secondary-2.2 recycled water as "[...]recycled water that has been oxidized and disinfected so that the median concentration of total coliform bacteria in the disinfected effluent does not exceed a most probable number (MPN) of 2.2 per 100 milliliters utilizing the bacteriological results of the last seven days for which analyses have been completed, and the number of total coliform bacteria does not exceed an MPN of 23 per 100 milliliters in more than one sample in any 30 day period." Section 60301.220 of the CCR defines disinfected secondary-23 recycled water as "[...]recycled water that has been oxidized and disinfected so that the median concentration of total coliform bacteria in the disinfected effluent does not exceed a most probable number (MPN) of 23 per 100 milliliters utilizing the bacteriological results of the last seven days for which analyses have been completed, and the number of total coliform bacteria does not exceed an MPN of 240 per 100 milliliters in more than one sample in any 30 day period."

⁴ CCR, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3, Section 60301.230 defines disinfected tertiary treated recycled water as follows: "[...]a filtered and subsequently disinfected wastewater that meets the following criteria:

- (a) The filtered wastewater has been disinfected by either:
 - (1) A chlorine disinfection process following filtration that provides a CT (the product of total chlorine residual and modal contact time measured at the same point) value of not less than 450 milligram-minutes per liter at all times with a modal contact time of at least 90 minutes, based on peak dry weather design flow; or
 - (2) A disinfection process that, when combined with the filtration process, has been demonstrated to inactivate and/or remove 99.999 percent of the plaque forming units of F-specific bacteriophage MS2, or polio virus in the wastewater. A virus that is at least as resistant to disinfection as polio virus may be used for purposes of the demonstration.
- (b) The median concentration of total coliform bacteria measured in the disinfected effluent does not exceed an MPN of 2.2 per 100 milliliters utilizing the bacteriological results of the last seven days for which analyses have been completed and the number of total coliform bacteria does not exceed an MPN of 23 per 100 milliliters in more than one sample in any 30 day period. No sample shall exceed an MPN of 240 total coliform bacteria per 100 milliliters".

additional 5.3 mgd of secondary-treated effluent to the RIX facility for tertiary treatment and discharge to the river. RIX currently discharges approximately 31.3 mgd to the SAR.

In the PIR referenced above, a range of recycled water reuse alternatives were developed. These alternatives included a menu of various treatment technologies, conveyance schemes, and reuse. The feasibility of a bounded group of treatment and reuse alternatives was then explored. This investigation led to the selection of a set of options that will be discussed and evaluated in the Draft EIS/EIR. In order to ensure that the potential environmental impacts of all the options are considered, a comprehensive “worst case” approach will be taken in the EIR/EIS to ensure that all areas that could potentially be disturbed by any of the options evaluated would be taken into account.

SBMWD filed a “Petition for Change for Owners of Waste Water Treatment Plants” with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on April 22, 2010 (Petition revised June 7, 2010), pursuant to Water Code Section 1211 (and in accordance with Water Code Sections 461, 13500 *et seq.* and 13575 *et seq.*) to decrease current tertiary-treated discharge from the RIX facility to the SAR from approximately 35.7 mgd (40,000 acre-feet per year) to approximately 11.9 mgd (13,300 acre-feet per year).⁵ The Petition for Change proposes the “reuse of recycled water in [SBMWD’s] service area and the marketing of surplus recycled water to water agencies outside the SBMWD service area.” The “change” that would result from approval of this Petition includes the “place of use” and the “purpose of use” of SBMWD’s existing and future effluent.

Purpose and Need

Southern California is facing an unprecedented water crisis. This crisis stems from the effects of climate change, continuing population growth, severe drought on the Colorado River Basin and the threat of failing levees and endangered species issues in the Bay Delta. These conditions are severely testing the region’s ability to provide clean water, both now and in the future. In its recent Recycled Water Policy statement, the SWRCB encouraged local and regional water agencies to move toward local water sustainability by emphasizing water recycling, water conservation, improved maintenance of supply infrastructure and the capture and use of stormwater and dry-weather urban runoff.⁶

Currently, SBMWD relies completely on groundwater from the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin to meet the water supply needs of its service area. However, the Bunker Hill Basin is presently in a condition of groundwater depletion and future demand is expected to increase over time.

The proposed Project is designed to reduce SBMWD’s dependence on imported water and establish a reliable, sustainable source of clean water. To implement the proposed Project, SBMWD must meet a number of political, technical, regulatory, and other challenges. By meeting these challenges, SBMWD will be positioned to move aggressively towards a more reliable water future.

The identified purpose and need of the Project are as follows:

- **Need** – Increase SBMWD’s water supply reliability and sustainability to meet future projected water demands, in a manner that provides SBMWD and its customers with a safe, reliable, cost-effective water supply, that minimizes existing and potential future supply reliability and system operational risk associated with imported water, regulatory requirements and other factors;

⁵ City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department. (April 22, 2010). “Petition for Change: For Owners of Waste Water Treatment Plants” (WW0059). http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/petitions/2010.shtml. Accessed on March 1, 2012.

⁶ State Water Resources Control Board Recycled Water Policy, approved May 14, 2009.

- Purpose – Modify the existing wastewater management system to meet this need.

2.0 Project Description

Project Location

The Project is located within the City of San Bernardino approximately 60 miles east of the City of Los Angeles in the upper SAR Valley Watershed (refer to Exhibit 2, *Regional Location Map*, and Exhibit 3, *Project Vicinity Map*). The proposed facilities would be constructed within the SBMWD service area and would lie above the San Bernardino Basin Area or, more specifically, the Bunker Hill Basin.

The Project area includes the plant boundary of the City's existing San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP) located just north of the confluence of the East Twin Creeks and the SAR at 399 Chandler Place, San Bernardino, California. It also includes the alignments of proposed distribution pipelines which would extend from the SBWRP along existing street and/or flood control channel rights-of-way (ROWS) within the City. These pipelines extend to the Waterman Basin and East Twin Creek Spreading Ground at the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains. Refer to Exhibit 4, *Recycled Water System Conveyance System Alternatives (Southerly Portion)*, and Exhibit 5, *Recycled Water System Conveyance System Alternatives (Northerly Portion)*.

Project Study Area

The study area for this environmental analysis includes areas that may be affected directly, indirectly or cumulatively by implementing the Project. The study area has been broadly defined to ensure evaluation of the potential effects within all areas that would be affected by, and benefit from, implementation of the Project. The scope of the study area varies depending on the impact topic discussed. For example, a discussion of hydrologic impacts may cover impacts that would occur to the Bunker Hill Basin, while noise impacts may be more localized to a particular construction site and its surrounding uses.

Operational impacts and benefits, however, would tend to occur in all geographic subareas under all alternatives. Construction-related impacts related to installation of the approximately 100,000 linear-foot pipeline conveyance system would occur throughout the City of San Bernardino under all Project alternatives, since all four of the proposed pipeline alignment route options are within the City's boundaries (refer to Exhibits 4 and 5).

Note that conveyance alignments, recharge basins and potential recycled water end users are all conceptual, and may be modified through the EIS/EIR process and/or during final design and construction.

Existing Facilities

The existing facilities that are components of the Project are the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP), the Waterman Basins, the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, as well as existing inter-basin facilities that could be used to deliver product water to the Chino Basin (see "Consideration of Project Alternatives" discussion, below). The Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX) tertiary treatment facility is located approximately four miles southwest of the SBWRP along the Santa River. The SBMWD and City of Colton are members of a Joint Powers Agency that owns and operates the RIX facility. Descriptions of these facilities and their respective recharge capabilities will be provided in the EIS/EIR.

Project Description

SBMWD is proposing the Project to reduce its dependence on imported water and to establish a reliable, sustainable source of clean water. The proposed Project will treat effluent from the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP) to a quality approved for recharge as set by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The treated effluent will be conveyed to the Waterman Basins and the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds. Recycled water spread at these facilities will artificially recharge the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin (Bunker Hill Basin) and, more specifically, the Bunker Hill A Management Zone, as described in the Water Quality Control Plan for the SAR Watershed (Basin Plan). The Project will also treat a side stream of SBWRP effluent to a quality approved for direct use and convey the tertiary treated recycled water to customers that can benefit from a non-potable water supply.

Project Elements

The proposed Project consists of the following key elements (subject to modification through the EIS/EIR and final design process):

- Treatment improvements to the existing SBWRP, which has an annual capacity to produce up to 36,967 acre-feet of secondary effluent;
- Addition of up to 5 mgd of tertiary filtration/disinfection facilities to the SBWRP to provide a source of Title 22 water to parks, golf course and other irrigation users within the SBMWD service area;
- Addition of up to 15 mgd of advanced wastewater treatment to the SBWRP to provide a source of clean water for groundwater replenishment; these treatment units may be phased in 5 mgd increments and could consist of a 5 mgd membrane bioreactor (MBR) expansion, a tertiary filtration process, a nano/reverse osmosis (RO) membrane treatment system and disinfection process using UV/advanced oxidation process (AOP) with post-treatment stabilization;
- A system to convey the recycled water to the Waterman Basins and the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds for surface spreading, and to “target opportunity” customers for direct use applications near, or adjacent to, the conveyance alignment;
- Reduction of up to approximately 22 mgd of treated wastewater discharges into the SAR via the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX) facility, to be beneficially used for groundwater recharge/direct reuse; and
- Future connection of the RIX facility to the Chino Groundwater Basin and the Inland Empire Utility Agency’s (IEUA) non-potable system. Recycled water in excess of SBMWD needs can then be conveyed to the IEUA service area to be used to meet non-potable direct uses and for groundwater recharge in the Chino Basins. Refer to Exhibit 6, *Inter-Agency Conveyance Facilities*.

Specific Project Components

Several different improvement options are identified with respect to water treatment, conveyance systems and pipeline alignments. The option that is ultimately used would be identified as part of final facilities design, after the EIS/EIR is certified and/or approved. In order to ensure that the potential environmental impacts of all the options listed below are considered, a comprehensive “worst case” approach will be taken in the EIS/EIR to ensure that all areas that could potentially be disturbed by any of the options considered below would be taken into account. The specific facilities improvements that would be necessary to implement the Project will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR, including the following:

NOTICE OF PREPARATION/PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE

- Improvement to the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant;
- Alternative conveyance pipeline alignments;
- Reservoir and pump stations associated with the pipeline conveyance system;
- Recharge site improvements; and
- Direct use site improvements, distribution and customers.

Table 1 below provides a brief summary of the estimated length, width and area, and brief description for each alternative alignment. The proposed alignment routes for the conveyance pipelines are illustrated in Exhibit 4, *Recycled Water System Conveyance System Alternatives (Southerly Portion)*, and Exhibit 5, *Recycled Water System Conveyance System Alternatives (Northerly Portion)*. Precise alignments are subject to modification through the EIS/EIR process and final design.

Table 1: Alternative Alignments

Alternative Alignment 1				
Segment Number	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Estimated Area (sq ft)	Description
1	1,400	35	49,000	Twin Creek Channel
5	6,220	34	211,480	Twin Creek Channel, Crossing Streets, Railroad Crossing
10	11,320	34	384,880	Twin Creek Channel, Street Crossing
18	5,600	25	140,000	Twin Creek Channel, Street Crossings, Perris Hill Park
24	10,660	41	437,060	Twin Creek Channel, Street Crossings, Highway SR-210 Crossing, East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds
27	3,260	--	0	Waterman Basins
Total	38,460	--	1,222,420	

Alternative Alignment 2				
Segment Number	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Estimated Area (sq ft)	Description
1	1,400	35	49,000	Twin Creek Channel
2	900	40	36,000	West Orange Show Road
4	7,710	30	231,300	Arrowhead Avenue, Railroad Crossing
8	1,370	65	89,050	West Rialto Avenue
11	7,460	28	208,880	Sierra Way
13	1,930	70	135,100	East Baseline Street
14	1,590	70	111,300	East Baseline Street
17A	4,660	35	163,100	Crestview Avenue
17B	1,100	35	38,500	East 21 st Street and Valencia Avenue
23	10,580	44	465,520	Valencia Avenue, Bridge over Highway 210
26	890	60	53,400	East 40 th Street
27	3,260	--	0	Waterman Basins
Total	42,850	--	1,581,150	

Alternative Alignment 3				
Segment Number	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Estimated Area (sq ft)	Description
1	1,400	35	49,000	Twin Creek Channel
2	950	40	36,000	West Orange Show Road
4	7,710	30	231,000	Arrowhead Avenue, Railroad Crossing
8	1,370	65	45,500	West Rialto Avenue
11	7,460	28	212,750	Sierra Way
13	1,930	70	66,500	East Baseline Street
16	5,310	16	84,000	Waterman Avenue

Alternative Alignment 3 (continued)				
Segment Number	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Estimated Area (sq ft)	Description
22	10,570	31	323,425	Waterman Avenue, Bridge over Highway SR-210
25	1,890	60	54,000	East 40 th Street
26	890	60	27,000	East 40 th Street
27	3,260	--	0	Waterman Basins
Total	42,740	--	1,330,760	

Alternative Alignment 4
Consists of Alternative Alignment 1 plus Alternative Alignment 2

Project Operations

Use of the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds

The following parameters were evaluated for both recharge facilities to determine the maximum recharge potential: effective area, infiltration rate, and maintenance requirements. The total area of the recharge facility, or gross area, is the surface area of the parcels. The effective area is the surface area of the recharge facility available for storing and infiltrating water. The infiltration rate, expressed as feet per day (ft/day) is the spatially averaged rate at which surface water infiltrates on the wetted area of the recharge basins. The long-term infiltration rate was estimated to be 1.5 ft/day. While initial infiltration rates may be significantly higher at startup and for the first few months, the infiltration rate would decrease over time due to the deposition of fine-grained materials at the bottom of the basins. It is assumed that each facility would be offline for two months per year for maintenance activities (maintenance activities for the spreading grounds and the conveyance facilities will be specified and discussed in further detail in the EIS/EIR). Table 2 shows the estimated maximum recharge capacity for each basin.

Table 2: Estimated Recharge Capacity at the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds

Recharge Site	Site Area	Effective Area	Infiltration Rate ¹	Storage Capacity ²	Maximum Recharge Capacity	Maximum Recharge Capacity ³
	(acres)	(acres)	(ft/day)	(acre-ft)	(acre-ft/day)	(acre-ft/year)
Waterman Basins	230	70	1.5	105	105	32,000
East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds	170	93	1.5	180	139	42,100
Total	400	163	--	285	244	74,100

1. This is the estimated average infiltration rate, expressed in feet per day, at which water will infiltrate to the subsurface.
2. For the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, storage capacity is the volume of water that can be stored at an elevation of 3 feet above bottom of basin.
3. This calculation is based on all recharge basins within the spreading facility being online about 300 days or 10 months per year. Annual maintenance of the recharge facility would occur during a 2-month period.

Source:

San Bernardino Municipal Water Department. (2010 November). *Recycled Water Planning Investigation Report*. Prepared by Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.

The proposed recycled water would discharge into these basins when storage capacity is available and not needed for flood control purposes. An agreement between the SBCFCD and the SBMWD that defines the operational requirements as described in the Draft EIS/EIR will have to be developed and executed.

A similar agreement was approved for the *Chino Basin Recharge Master Plan*. This agreement was established between the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Chino Basin Water Conservation District, and Chino Basin Watermaster to govern the operation and maintenance of the Chino Recharge Basin facilities. The agreement states that the priority of use of capacity is first for flood control, second for recharge of native water, and third for recharge of supplemental water (i.e., imported water and recycled water). Each of the Parties of this agreement are given the sole authority to determine when their respective facilities are available for recharge of supplemental water and to release water or to order the cessation of the delivery of supplemental water to maintain the full flood control capacity of their facilities. It requires the preparation of a Conservation Plan with a schedule of “conservation pool elevations, or criteria that defines when water can be stored for conservation and when water in conservation must be released to restore the full flood protection capabilities of the basins or allow for facility maintenance and repair, etc.”⁷ This agreement, therefore, defines the parameters of the facilities’ operations. It is anticipated that a similar agreement would be required for the proposed Project.

The EIS/EIR will examine historical data showing the quantity of stormwater that has been captured in the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds. In addition, the EIS/EIR will compare this information with a month-by-month breakdown of the potential recycled water recharge to show that the two purposes will not conflict.

Underground Retention Time

The recycled water would be retained underground in the aquifer for a minimum six-month period before it is extracted as a drinking water supply. Within three months of commencing operations, the Project would be required to demonstrate that the minimum two-month underground retention time to the closest downgradient drinking water well has been met. Evidence of the Project compliance with this requirement would be based on sample results at a monitoring well located or constructed along the flow path at a distance equal to at least three months underground travel time from the nearest downgradient drinking water well. The EIS/EIR will examine the methods that could be employed to evaluate the Project compliance, such as an examination of water quality changes, groundwater tracer studies, modeling, etc.

Diverting Discharge from the Santa Ana River

Currently the SBWRP treats approximately 22 mgd of wastewater to a secondary treatment standard. The plant provides treatment for effluent from the Cities of San Bernardino and Loma Linda, and the East Valley Water District. Secondary-treated effluent is conveyed offsite to the RIX Facility, where it is treated to tertiary standards and discharged to the SAR.

Project Phasing

There are two primary components of phasing with respect to project implementation. The first aspect is the reduction in the amount of water that would be discharged from the RIX facility to the SAR, in million gallons per day (mgd) by phase, through the year 2035, as shown in Table 3 below. The following phasing is conceptual, and may be modified through the EIS/EIR process and consultation with regulatory agencies and other stakeholders. As discussed below under Probable Environmental Impacts, SBWMD proposes an Adaptive Management Plan as part of the required Biological Assessment and

⁷ County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Works – Flood Control. (January 14, 2003). “Agreement for operation and maintenance of Facilities to Implement the Chino Recharge Basin Master Plan”. (Agreement No. 03-0083). Pg. 1, 3, and Attachment No. 1., Pg. 1-2.

regulatory permitting for the Project, to ensure that Project operations avoid or minimize potential impacts to the SAR and associated sensitive habitat and species.

The reduction in discharge is anticipated to occur over five phases, based on the expected need for this water to be recharged over time. The reduction in discharge also has implications for the potential impacts to the Federally-endangered Santa Ana Sucker (SASU), due to changes in the depth and flow characteristics of the SAR resulting from reduced discharge.

Table 3: Potential RIX Discharge Phased Reduction Scenarios

Discharge Scenarios	Year	RIX Discharge (MGD)	RIX Discharge (CFS)
Baseline ¹	2012	34.3	53.0
Phase 1	2015	29.0	44.9
Phase 2	2020	24.8	38.4
Phase 3	2025	20.8	32.2
Phase 4	2030	17.0	26.3
Phase 5	2035	13.4	20.8
Zero ²	2012	6.1 ²	9.5 ²

Source: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

Notes: ¹For the model, baseline discharge was based on average RIX discharge measured on October 18-19, 2012. Average discharge was approximately 53 cfs. MGD=million gallons per day; CFS=cubic feet per second. Annual RIX discharge has varied from 36 MGD in 2010 to 31.3 MGD in 2013.

²Provided for illustrative purposes. Zero discharge is based on zero discharge from RIX, but it is assumed the City of Rialto wastewater treatment plant will continue to discharge approximately 10 cfs to the Santa Ana River, resulting in an existing baseline of approximately 63 cfs for Santa Ana River discharge.

The second component of project phasing relates to the actual facilities improvements that would be needed to accommodate the recharge of the water diverted from the RIX facility into the Bunker Hill Basin. These improvements would include the following: increased water treatment capabilities; the pipes, pumps and reservoirs needed for the conveyance system that would transport water from the SBWRP to the Waterman Basins and the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds; pipelines and associated improvements needed to distribute recycled water to direct use customers; and improvements at the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds.

Improvements to increase water treatment capabilities would generally occur within the boundaries of the existing SBWRP plant site. Improvements for the conveyance system that would connect the SBWRP to the recharge facilities would largely need to be constructed in conjunction with the first phase, although development of some individual facilities (such as the installation of individual water pumps or storage reservoirs located at the north end of the system) may be provided in later phases when required to accommodate the increased conveyance volumes that would occur in the later phases of the Project. Improvements to the recycled water distribution system, all of which are expected to occur either within existing roadways or on the sites of direct use customers, would be provided incrementally over time as the need to serve individual customers arises. The identified improvements to the recharge basins would occur in the first phase. Potential improvements for inter-basin conveyance would be constructed depending on the timing for this product water delivery option.

Construction Activities

Project components would be designed and constructed in accordance with applicable provisions of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Standards, California State Building Code (CBC), and the

Uniform Building Code (UBC). Components of the proposed Project would require general construction activities including grading, excavating, trenching, pipe installation, placement of backfill, and asphalt patching and the construction of reservoirs, pump stations, and other limited structural improvements. Nearly all of the construction would occur within existing public rights-of-way or easements within roadways or other developed areas. Depending on the conveyance system option selected, there would be some construction that would occur along East Twin Creek (within maintenance access areas) and along the east and northeast edges of the Waterman Basin.

Staging Areas

Construction would require, but is not limited to, the following equipment: crane, excavator, backhoe, front-end loaders, dump trucks, diesel generator, water trucks, flat-bed truck, compactors, double transfer trucks for soil hauling, concrete trucks, paving equipment (as needed).

Equipment and vehicle staging would be accommodated either at each construction site, or at a centralized staging area (such as the SBWRP, Waterman Basins or the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds). Staging would be avoided within sensitive areas such as riparian or other habitats.

Construction hours and activities will be consistent with City of San Bernardino regulations and requirements as defined in their Municipal Code (Chapter 8.54, "Noise Control"), except for well drilling (monitoring) which may temporarily exceed allowable construction noise levels. In residential zones, construction would occur between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., and in all other zones between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Consideration of Project Alternatives

The SBMWD currently relies completely on groundwater from the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin to meet the water supply needs of its service area. In the past, this approach has worked well and has allowed the SBMWD to have a very high level of control over its water resources with respect to reliability, cost certainty and water quality (since the entire water source is under the SBMWD's control). However, this approach cannot be sustained, as the Bunker Hill Basin is presently in a condition of groundwater depletion and future demand is expected to increase over time. Approximately 5,000 acre-feet per year of the groundwater pumped by SBMWD must be offset by recharging State Water Project (SWP) water, and the amount of this recharge will increase in the future as the groundwater pumping by the SBMWD and other water purveyors increases.⁸ The supplemental water recharge required for SBMWD to meet future water demands could reach 15,000 to 20,000 acre-feet per year by 2025.

Alternatives to be evaluated in the EIS/EIR will focus on methods to meet future water demands in a manner consistent with the stated Purpose and Need. These alternatives are anticipated to include, but not be limited to:

- 1) No Project Alternative (Conservation Only). This Alternative will evaluate the impacts and water supply implications should SBMWD not proceed with this Project, including consideration of other available water supply options, and increased reliance upon water conservation;
- 2) Reduced Scale Alternative (reduced diversion from SAR). This Alternative will evaluate potential environmental impacts and water supply implications associated with a reduced scale project, such as a configuration delivering the equivalent of Phases 1-3 of the proposed Project;

⁸ City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department, *2010 San Bernardino Valley Regional Urban Water Management Plan* (September 2012), Chapter 10, p. 10-35.

- 3) Alternative Site(s) for recharge and conveyance facilities. This Alternative will evaluate potential alternative sites for water reclamation, potential alternative conveyance alignments, and potential alternative recharge basins;
- 4) In Lieu Alternative. This Alternative, described further below, evaluates the potential environmental impacts and water supply implications of meeting SBMWD's increased water supply needs by reducing the proposed RIX diversion (thereby allowing increased discharge into the SAR), in exchange for a downstream agency or agencies transferring a corresponding amount of SWP water to SBMWD. This Alternative would have the net effect of reducing RIX diversion (increased discharge to SAR) in exchange for increased imported water. A "Hybrid Alternative" variation of this could include In Lieu along with a Reduced Scale Alternative.
- 5) Environmentally Superior Alternative

In Lieu Alternatives

Although there are myriad different methods that could be utilized to provide water "In-Lieu" of water under the SBMWD control, all such methods involve the transport and use of water from outside of the SBMWD service area. The Draft EIS/EIR will consider such "In-Lieu" approaches in the evaluation of alternatives to the proposed Project, including an alternative that would utilize a mix of CWF recharged/recycled water and In-Lieu imported water. In fact, one of the components of the base Project identified in the 2010 Petition for Change, the future connection of the RIX facility to the Chino Groundwater Basin, would support the conveyance of excess water that would otherwise be discharged to the SAR. Such water could then be exchanged for In-Lieu water from other sources.

In-Lieu alternatives to be considered may, at a minimum, include the following improvements:

- Improvements to the WRP that will maintain capacity, ensure compliance with regulations, and reduce operating costs;
- Improvements at the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds to accommodate additional recharge flows; and
- Modifications to SWP turnout facilities to convey in-lieu water.

The evaluation of any Project Alternative would also need to consider the degree to which such alternative(s) would address the following key factors in a manner consistent with Purpose and Need defined above:

- **Source Reliability** - This is an especially critical factor given ongoing drought conditions, the conditions in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Delta, and the future reliability of SWP supplies. A viable In-Lieu alternative would need to be as reliable as the proposed Project, including under dry year conditions. Appropriate arrangements with respect to water banking to provide balance between wet years and dry years may also be needed to ensure reliability. Another element of source reliability is potential vulnerability to regional conveyance infrastructure in the event of a major seismic event.
- **Cost Certainty** - Workable In-Lieu alternatives would be designed to secure fair and predictable water prices. Approaches that are not safeguarded against potential high cost increase in the future, such as those potentially due to energy costs, conveyance charges, and/or treatment requirements, would hinder the SBMWD's ability to adequately serve its customers.
- **Water Quality** - If imported SWP water (which is relatively high in total dissolved solids) is utilized, potential disadvantages as compared to CWF water with respect to regulatory and/or treatment requirements would need to be offset. Reliance upon imported water also exposes

SBWMD and its customers to potential future adverse water quality conditions, dependent on source water quality and in-system water quality degradation throughout the conveyance system.

- **Regulatory Risk From Increased Discharge into the Santa Ana River** – The In-Lieu alternative would likely result in an SBMWD commitment to increased discharge from the RIX Facility into SAR. One of the benefits of the proposed Project is that by reducing the RIX discharge into the Santa Ana River, the SBMWD reduces its liability from future regulations that could result in more strict discharge requirements or limits. In-Lieu alternatives would need to include provisions that would offset such potential liability.

3.0 Probable Environmental Impacts

The EIS/EIR will describe the direct and indirect potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed Project. The EIS/EIR will also evaluate the cumulative impacts of the Project when considered in conjunction with other related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. The probable environmental impacts of the proposed Project are as follows (for each potentially significant impact, the EIS/EIR will identify Project Design Features, existing regulations, mitigation measures and/or Project alternatives that could avoid, reduce or offset potential impacts):

- **Aesthetics:** Temporary construction-related impacts and long-term operational changes in scenic views or visual character of the Project area may occur. The EIS/EIR will address construction-related and operational impacts of SBWRP site improvements, conveyance facilities, and recharge basins, including light/glare effects at construction sites and above-ground facility security lighting. In addition, potential indirect effects will be discussed with respect to RIX discharge changes and effects upon downstream vegetation.
- **Agricultural and Forestry Resources:** The potential for the Project to: convert farmland to non-agricultural uses; conflict with land under Williamson Act Land Conservation Contracts or agricultural zoning, as well as the potential loss or conversion of forestland or timberland will be addressed in the EIS/EIR.
- **Air Quality:** Temporary and short-term increases in pollutant emissions and objectionable odors associated with construction activities, and long-term increases in pollutant emissions during project operation (including stationary and mobile-source emissions) may occur. The Project facilities would be located near multiple sensitive receptor sites, including school sites and residential communities, and development of the proposed Project could result in pollutant emissions from short-term construction activities. The EIS/EIR will quantify potential air quality impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures to reduce exposure of sensitive receptors to below substantial pollutant concentrations. In addition, a localized analysis will be performed in accordance with SCAQMD Localized Significance Thresholds (LST) methodology for construction and operations (stationary sources) for carbon monoxide (CO), nitrous oxides (NO_x), particulate matter less than 10 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM₁₀), and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM_{2.5}).
- **Biological Resources:** Long-term operational impacts to the Federally-listed Santa Ana sucker (SASU) may result from the phased flow reduction within the Santa Ana River (SAR) that would occur as part of the Project. As such, a Low Flow Study is being prepared to evaluate these potential impacts and provide mitigation. An Adaptive Management Plan is also being prepared pursuant to the findings of the Low Flow Study. In addition, areas downstream of the RIX Facility are within Critical Habitat for the Santa Ana sucker (SASU), least Bell's vireo

(LBV), and southwestern willow flycatcher (SWWF), as identified through USFWS Critical Habitat Mapper. The EIS/EIR will include a Biological Assessment (BA) with appropriate habitat assessments and sensitive species surveys, as well as consultation and coordination with regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, including Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and pre-application permit coordination with California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The BA will also address potential impacts to sensitive habitat and species associated with SBWRT site improvements, conveyance facilities, and recharge basins.

- **Cultural Resources:** Project construction could impact portions of historic properties which are adjacent to the existing roadways. In addition, potentially significant archaeological and/or paleontological resources could be inadvertently unearthed or discovered during construction. SBMWD, through Reclamation, will initiate Section 106 consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer as part of the federal consultation process. As such, the proposed Project's potential impacts on archaeological, paleontological, and historic resources will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR.
- **Geology and Soils:** Multiple geological conditions exist within the Project area that warrant thorough geological and soils analysis. The Waterman Basins and the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds are located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (San Andreas and San Jacinto Faults), as are the far northerly portions of each of the Alternative Alignments of the conveyance pipelines.⁹ As such, it is anticipated that the proposed Project could potentially expose people (i.e., workers) or structures to geologic hazards. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone triggers the requirement for geologic analysis prior to development to determine the potential for damage from earthquake faults to occur, to ensure that structures are not built upon active faults and/or that structures are engineered to appropriate seismic building standards.

In addition, the potential for liquefaction and landslide is considered "high" at each of the Project component locations or at some point along their alignments. Also, the Project site, particularly the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, is located in an area that is generally subject to erosion, runoff, and sedimentation due to topography, hydrologic, and geological conditions.

Due to the critical nature of the proposed facilities, impacts related to liquefaction and landslide, erosion, and earthquake hazards (fault rupture, displacement, and strong seismic ground shaking) along the San Andreas Fault will be further analyzed in the EIS/EIR.

Potential soil erosion or loss of topsoil during construction and potential loss of mineral resources will be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Temporary construction activities associated with the proposed Project could result in emissions of greenhouse gasses including CO₂, N₂O, and CH₄ emissions. Water treatment processes, including Reverse Osmosis, utilize substantial energy, although only slightly greater than that of imported water. However, due to the existing high energy demands from the UV disinfection process at the RIX facility, operation of the proposed Project would result in decreased energy demands at RIX since it would reduce the quantity of

⁹ California Geological Survey. (1974, July 1). "Special Studies Zones: San Bernardino North Quadrangle". http://www.quake.ca.gov/gmaps/ap/ap_maps.htm. Accessed January 9, 2012.

water being disinfected through the UV process. The EIS/EIR will quantify potential greenhouse gas emissions from construction and operational activities, evaluate potential impacts, and identify appropriate mitigation measures, where necessary, to avoid and/or minimize pollutant emissions.

- **Hazards and Hazardous Materials:** Potential spills of, and exposure to, hazardous materials during construction may occur with Project implementation, due to the use of various products that could contain materials classified as hazardous (including solvents, adhesives, cements, paints, cleaning agents, and degreasers), as well as fuels such as gasoline and diesel used in heavy equipment and other construction vehicles. Operation of the proposed SBWRP improvements and recycled water recharge facilities includes the use of hazardous chemicals. In addition, based on CalEPA data sources, there are multiple hazardous materials sites immediately adjacent to the Project area, particularly along the proposed alignments of the conveyance pipelines. Therefore, additional analysis of the anticipated impacts relative to hazardous waste and materials will be provided in the EIS/EIR. The Project's potential to impair implementation of an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan will also be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.
- **Hydrology and Water Quality:** Long-term hydrology and water quality impacts may result with Project implementation, as discussed below:

Water Quality: During operation, the Project will generate a brine waste stream (i.e., salts). The disposal route anticipated for SBWRP brine would be the Inland Empire Brine Line, which has an existing connection point at the SBWRP. While SBWMD in 1993 purchased 2.5 mgd of capacity in the Inland Empire Brine Line and had the pipeline extended to the SBWRP, it is anticipated that the SBMWD's Inland Empire Brine Line capacity may be a constraint on the advanced treatment capacity at the SBWRP. As such, the EIS/EIR will evaluate the Project's capacity requirements and determine mitigation to reduce potentially significant impacts related to the potential exceedance of SBMWD's Inland Empire Brine Line capacity.

Water recycling criteria provided in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 22 establish standards for the water quality of, or levels of constituents in, recycled water and provide criteria for treatment processes, distribution, and use areas to ensure the use of recycled water is safe in terms of public health. The EIS/EIR will describe the recycling criteria expressed in the CCR and the Basin Plan (as well as proposed CDPH groundwater recharge regulations) and their relevance to the Project, and will include contingency planning, sampling and monitoring, water quality, and retention time requirements, in addition to the anticipated geohydrology that would result from operation of the groundwater recharge.

The EIS/EIR will also address water quality criteria established through the 1969 Western Judgment. The Riverside Narrows and Prado Dam, which are located downstream of the RIX Facility where the proposed reduction would occur, are locations with surface water flow and surface water quality requirements stipulated by the Judgment. The water quality objectives are set forth by the Santa Ana Watershed Water Quality Control Plan (i.e., Basin Plan). The EIS/EIR will describe these objectives and their relevance to the proposed Project. The EIS/EIR will also evaluate the Project's potential to impact groundwater quality. Until such analysis is provided in the EIS/EIR, impacts to water quality standards and waste discharge requirements are considered potentially significant.

Groundwater supplies: The Project's effect on surface water availability in the SAR and groundwater pumping rights in the upper SAR Watershed will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR, including an analysis of any related mitigation measures, if necessary. In addition, the potential cumulative effect of recharge of recycled water in these basins in combination with imported water recharge and stormwater capture will be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.

Drainage patterns: The Project proposes to use the existing Waterman Basins (an existing off-creek conservation facility connected to the Waterman Canyon Creek) and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds (a flow-through facility on East Twin Creek) for recharge of recycled water. Discharging recycled water would alter the quantity and flow of water in these facilities. As such, site improvements will be needed at their various outlet structures. The EIS/EIR will determine if impacts associated with an increase in erosion or siltation would occur, and will also analyze the amount and timing of supplemental water that could be recharged without interference with flood control functions. Further analysis of hydrological impacts will be conducted in the EIS/EIR.

100-year flood hazard: The Project site (i.e., the improvements within the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds) is partially located within a 100-year flood hazard area, as delineated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). While it is anticipated that the proposed improvements would accommodate the 100-year flood flows, potentially significant impacts are assumed until additional analysis of impacts associated with redirection of flows within the 100-year floodplain is provided in the EIS/EIR.

Inundation by mudflow: A large swath of the northern portion of the City is designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ), which lends itself to an increased potential for sediment/debris concentrations following storm events. Following a mudflow event, the basins/spreading grounds may be compromised until they are cleared, and recycled water would need either to be conveyed to direct users or discharged to the RIX Facility. The EIS/EIR will more closely examine past occurrences of mudflows along the Waterman Canyon Creek and East Twin Creek, and will discuss the potential for hyper-concentrated sediment flows to occur.

- **Land Use and Planning:** Portions of the SAR downstream of the RIX Facility, where a reduction in discharges is proposed, are either covered by the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) or the Santa Ana Sucker (SASU) Conservation Program for the SAR. The Santa Ana Sucker Conservation Program has been in effect since 2000 and was developed by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). It is being implemented by SAWPA and eight other participants, including SBMWD. The RIX Facility falls within the boundaries of the Santa Ana Sucker Conservation Program. SBMWD, as a participant in this program, is well aware of the presence of essential habitat for SASU downstream of the RIX Facility. As such, the Project has the potential to result in a significant impact to the existing conservation program. The EIS/EIR will address other related land use and planning programs, including consistency with adopted water supply plans, and land use/planning implications of proposed improvements at the SBWRP, recharge basins and related facilities.
- **Noise:** Noise associated with Project construction would occur over the short term. Construction noise for the proposed facilities would be generated by construction equipment, including trucks, backhoes, excavators, and other associated equipment, and may impact nearby sensitive receptors (such as schools and residences). Construction of the conveyance

pipeline would involve minor construction (trenching in paved and unpaved areas) that would be very limited in duration. Operation of the proposed SBWRP improvements would result in noise from the new pump stations. Noise from the conveyance pipelines, and recharge sites would be nearly non-existent. The EIS/EIR would include an evaluation of potential noise impacts, focusing on short-term construction noise (including truck hauling) and groundborne vibration, and long-term operations related to noise from the pump stations, and would specifically address impacts associated with the Project on noise-sensitive land uses both within the Project site and along existing offsite roadways where traffic would be generated.

- **Public Services (Including Parks):** The Project proposes treatment improvements to the existing SBWRP and a conveyance system to the Waterman Basins, East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, and customers for direct use applications. It does not include housing and therefore, would not increase the demand for parks. Direct use sites, including parks which presently operate independent of recycled water supplies, would need to implement site improvements to comply with reuse regulations. Park sites using recycled water would be required to install dual plumbing and may need to control recycled water onsite through drainage improvements. These improvements would require construction activities which may generate potentially significant environmental impacts. Because these improvements are included in the Project Description, their impacts will be evaluated further in the EIS/EIR. In addition, potential project impacts with respect to fire and police protection, schools and other public facilities would also be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.
- **Socioeconomics (Including Population, Employment and Housing):** Temporary and permanent increase in local/regional employment, increased need for housing or potential displacement of housing or persons, and inducement of substantial population growth associated with project implementation will be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.
- **Transportation/Traffic:** The Project is not considered a trip-generating project; however, temporary construction-related traffic impacts relative to levels of service standards and inadequate emergency access may occur. Therefore, further analysis will be conducted in the EIS/EIR.
- **Utilities and Service Systems:** The proposed Project would not “require” or “result” in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Rather, the Project, itself, proposes various improvements to treat, convey and recharge recycled water, and would help offset future expansion needs of the RIX tertiary treatment facility. The Project would include proposed stormwater drainage facility improvements including rehabilitating or replacing the outlet valves from each cell (i.e., sub-basin) within the Waterman Basins, repairing the internal berms between cells within the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, adding level transmitters to each cell and telemetry, performing weed abatement, and adding erosion control near the outlet of the recharge distribution pipeline. In addition, park sites using recycled water would need to control recycled water onsite through drainage improvements. The EIS/EIR will include a comprehensive review of existing conditions, potential impacts related to these drainage facilities, and would recommend mitigation measures to reduce the level of significance, as necessary.

With regard to wastewater treatment requirements, SBMWD will require multiple permits from the Santa Ana RWQCB to implement the proposed Project. Permits will include requirements from the California Department of Public Health and compliance with the Santa

Ana Watershed Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). RWQCB issues two main types of permits to agencies to operate wastewater treatment plants: Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) and/or Water Recycling Requirements (WRR). WDRs are issued to regulate the discharge of wastes to waters of the State. WRRs regulate reuse and its potential impact to regional water quality that affect the underlying groundwater aquifer. Another type of recycling permit issued by the RWQCBs is a Master Recycling Requirements (MRR) permit. MRR permits allow agencies to distribute recycled water to various users without separate user recycling requirements from the RWQCB. If the RWQCB determines that a proposed recycled water reuse project has the potential to impact public health, safety, or welfare, it will consult with the CDPH and consider its recommendations when issuing WRRs and MRRs. It is anticipated that the proposed Project would obtain such permits to meet the RWQCB's regulatory requirements and would comply with the future criteria and guidelines established by the RWQCB and CDPH through the permitting process. Further details regarding permit requirements for wastewater treatment will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR.

In addition, potential project impacts associated with landfill capacity and compliance with federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste will also be addressed in the EIS/EIR.

- **Environmental Justice:** Due to the presence of minority and low-income populations in the Project area (according to the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census¹⁰), disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations may occur with Project implementation, the analysis of which is required by NEPA. The EIS/EIR will conduct a demographic analysis of these populations both within proximity to the proposed Project and living in other areas that would be serviced by the Project, provide graphical representations of their locations, and evaluate and provide mitigation for any potential disproportionately high and adverse impacts to minority and low-income populations.
- **Growth Inducement:** Potential growth-inducing impacts may results from project construction, including substantial new temporary employment opportunities.

These issue areas will be discussed further in the EIS/EIR, and mitigation measures will be recommended wherever reasonable and feasible to reduce potentially significant impacts.

4.0 Scoping Meeting

A public scoping meeting will be held on **November 19, 2014**, at two different times for the convenience of interested parties - one from 2 to 4 PM and one from 6 to 8 PM (it is only necessary to attend one of the scoping meetings, as they will have the same information and purpose).

Scoping Meeting Information

Wednesday, November 19th, 2014
2-4 PM and 6-8 PM

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Phone: (909) 387-9200
www.sbvmd.com

¹⁰ U.S. Census Bureau website, <http://factfinder2.census.gov/> accessed 4-22-14.

The scoping meeting will include a brief presentation regarding the proposed Project, followed by an open house format workshop with information stations addressing various aspects of the Project, Environmental Issues, and the Process. Attendees will be provided an informational packet, will have the opportunity to ask questions at each workshop station, and will be provided with a comment card to submit to SBMWD prior to the close of the public review period.

If special assistance is required to participate in the public scoping meetings, please contact us as far in advance as possible to enable SBMWD to secure the needed services (contact information is provided below). If a request cannot be honored, the requestor will be notified. A telephone device for the hearing impaired (TDD) is available at 916-989-7285.

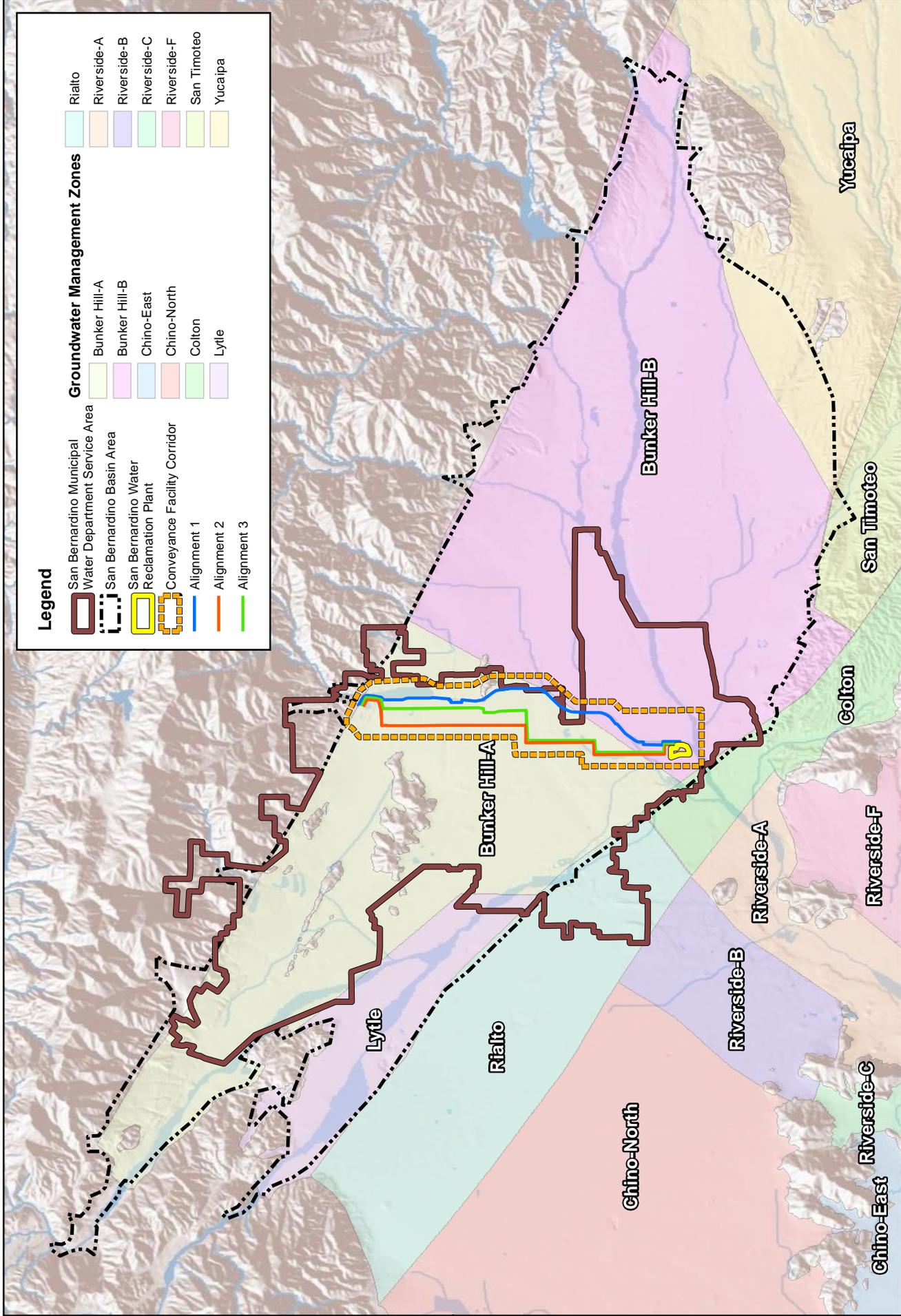
5.0 Comments

This NOP is being circulated for a 30-day public comment period, beginning on November 6, 2014, and ending on December 8, 2014. Written or oral comments on the proposed content and scope of the EIS/EIR can be provided at the public scoping meeting, or written comments may be provided directly to Reclamation or SBMWD. Comments must be ***received no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 6, 2014.*** Agencies that will need to use the EIS/EIR when considering permits or other approvals for the proposed Project should provide the name of a contact person, as well as any specific requirements or recommended mitigation measures or alternatives necessary to satisfy the agency's respective permit/approval process. Comments provided by e-mail should include the name and address of the sender. Please send all written and/or e-mail comments to one of the following:

John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408
909-384-5108
John.Claus@sbmwd.org

Before including your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can request in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, Reclamation and SBMWD cannot guarantee that this will be possible.

All comments received during the public comment period will be considered and addressed in the EIS/EIR, which is anticipated to be available for public review in mid 2015.



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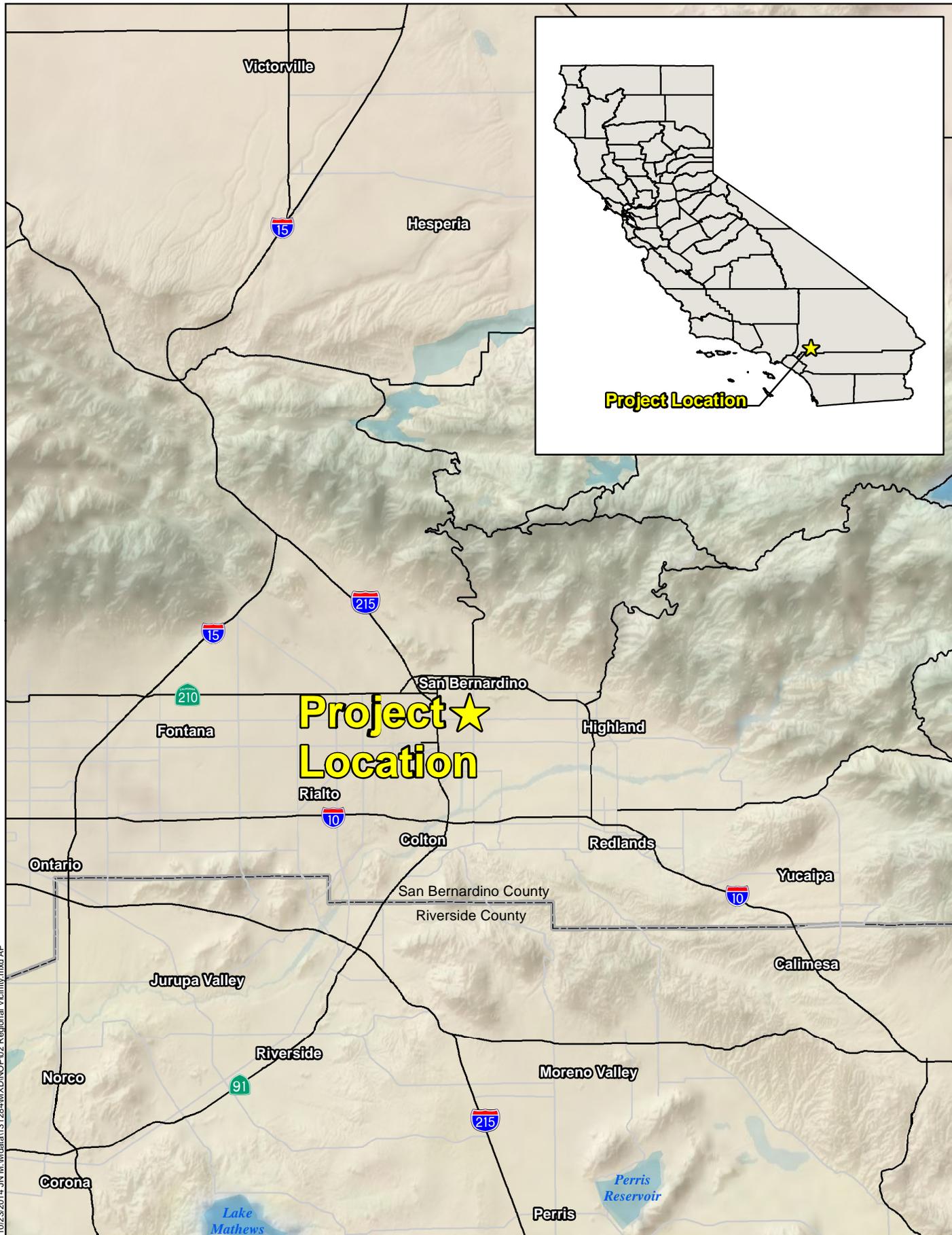
San Bernardino Municipal Water Department Service Area	Rialto
San Bernardino Basin Area	Riverside-A
San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant	Riverside-B
Conveyance Facility Corridor	Riverside-C
Alignment 1	Riverside-D
Alignment 2	San Timoteo
Alignment 3	Yucaipa

Groundwater Management Zones

Bunker Hill-A	Bunker Hill-B
Chino-East	Chino-North
Colton	Lytle



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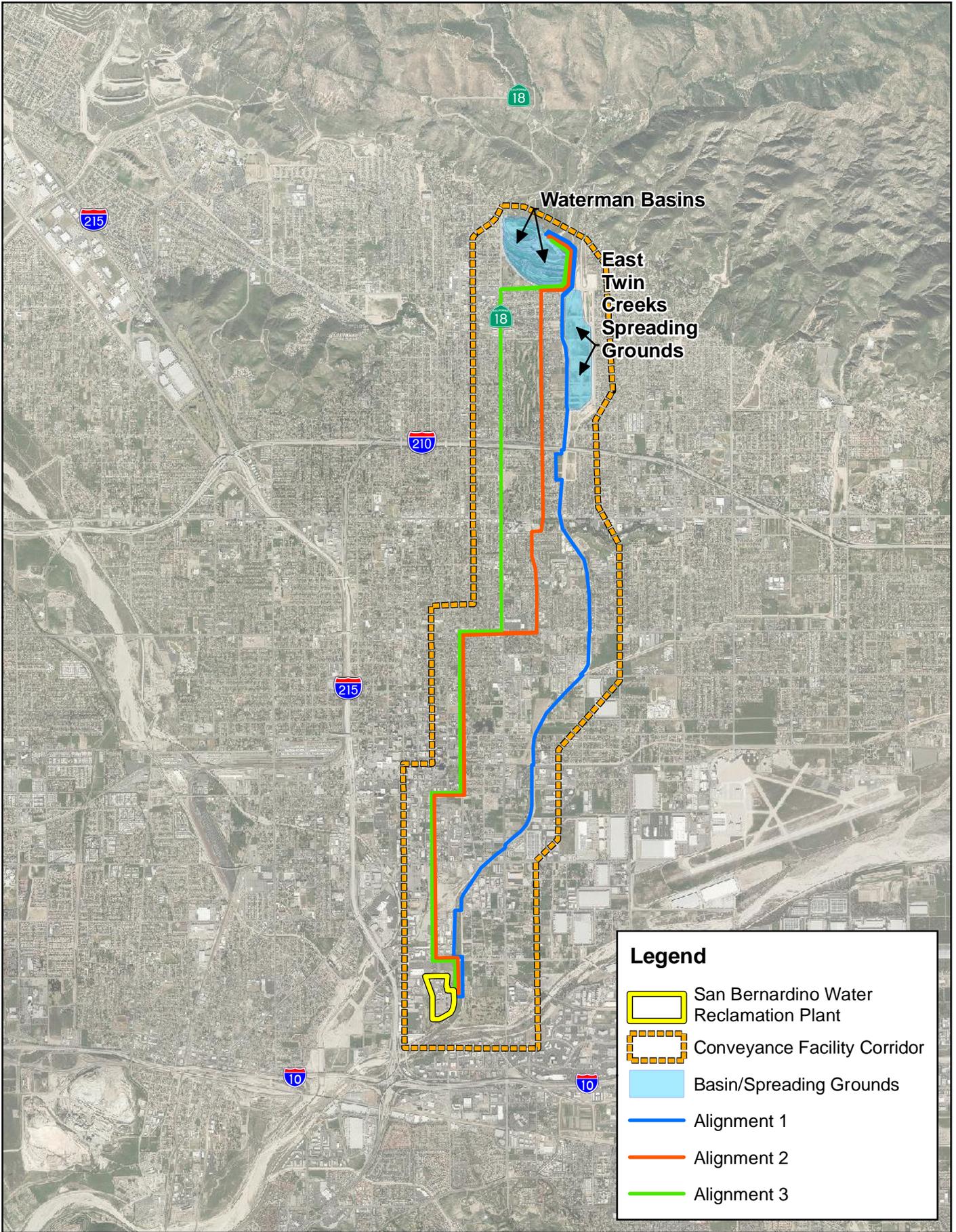


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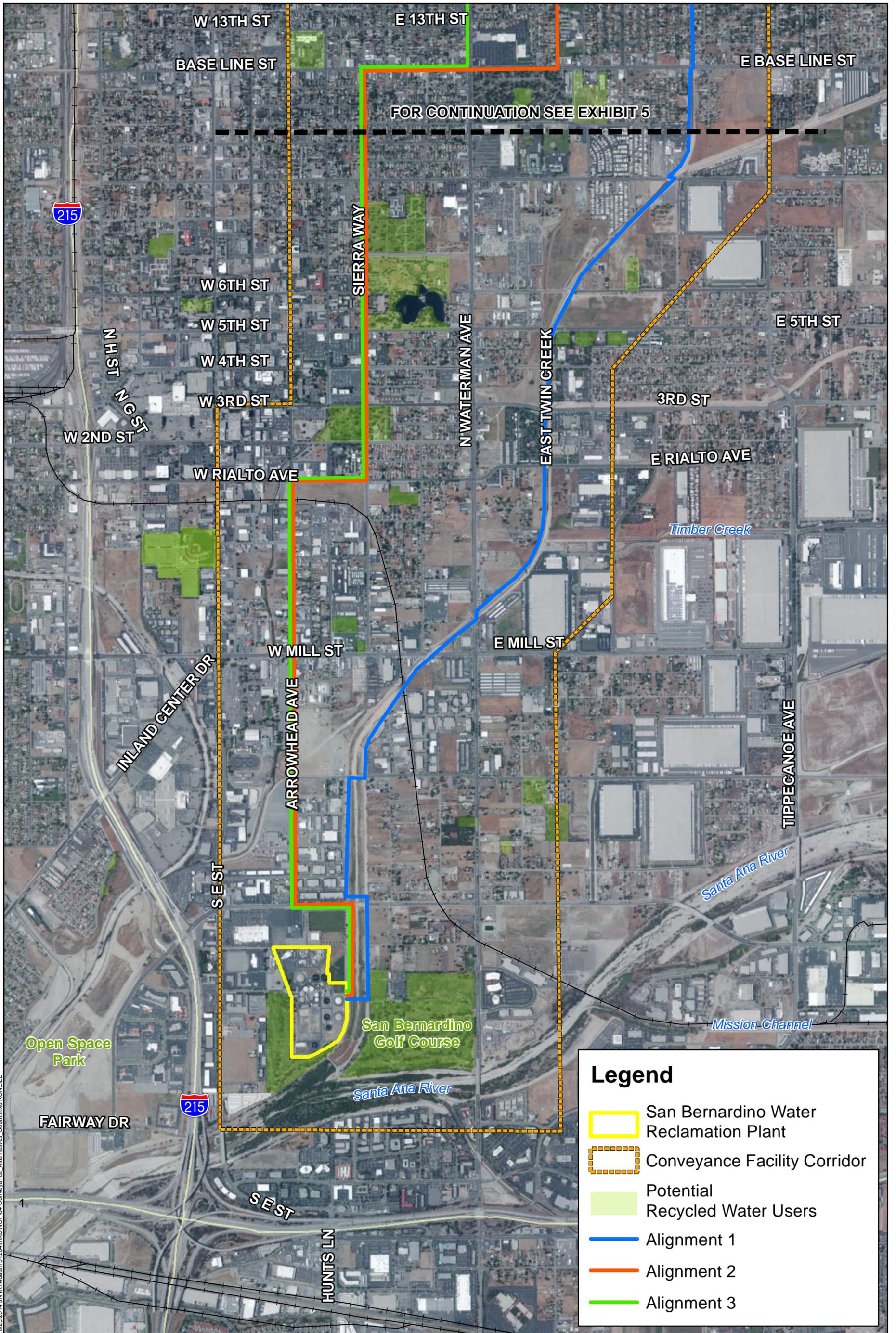


Legend

-  San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant
-  Conveyance Facility Corridor
-  Basin/Spreading Grounds
-  Alignment 1
-  Alignment 2
-  Alignment 3



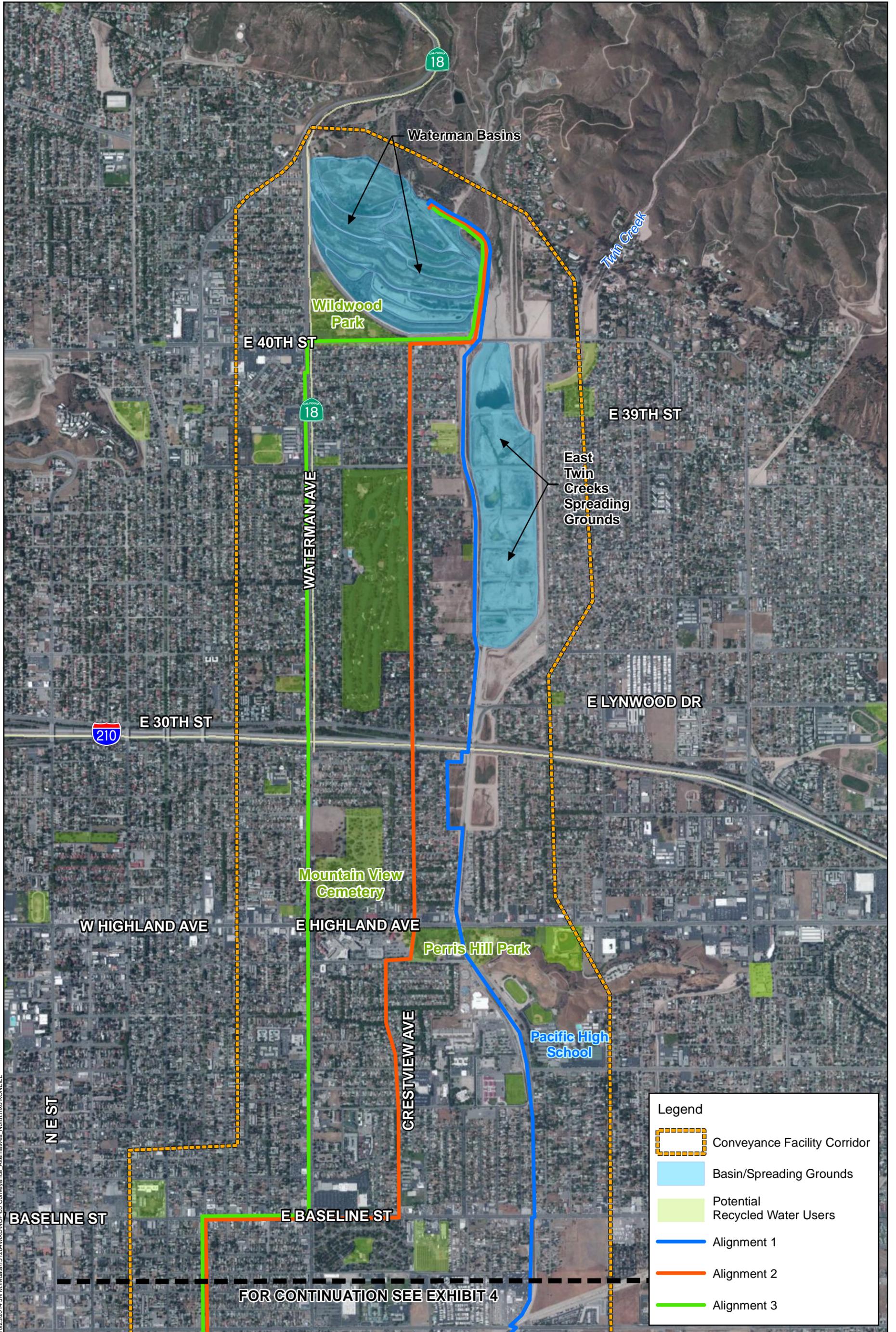
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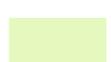
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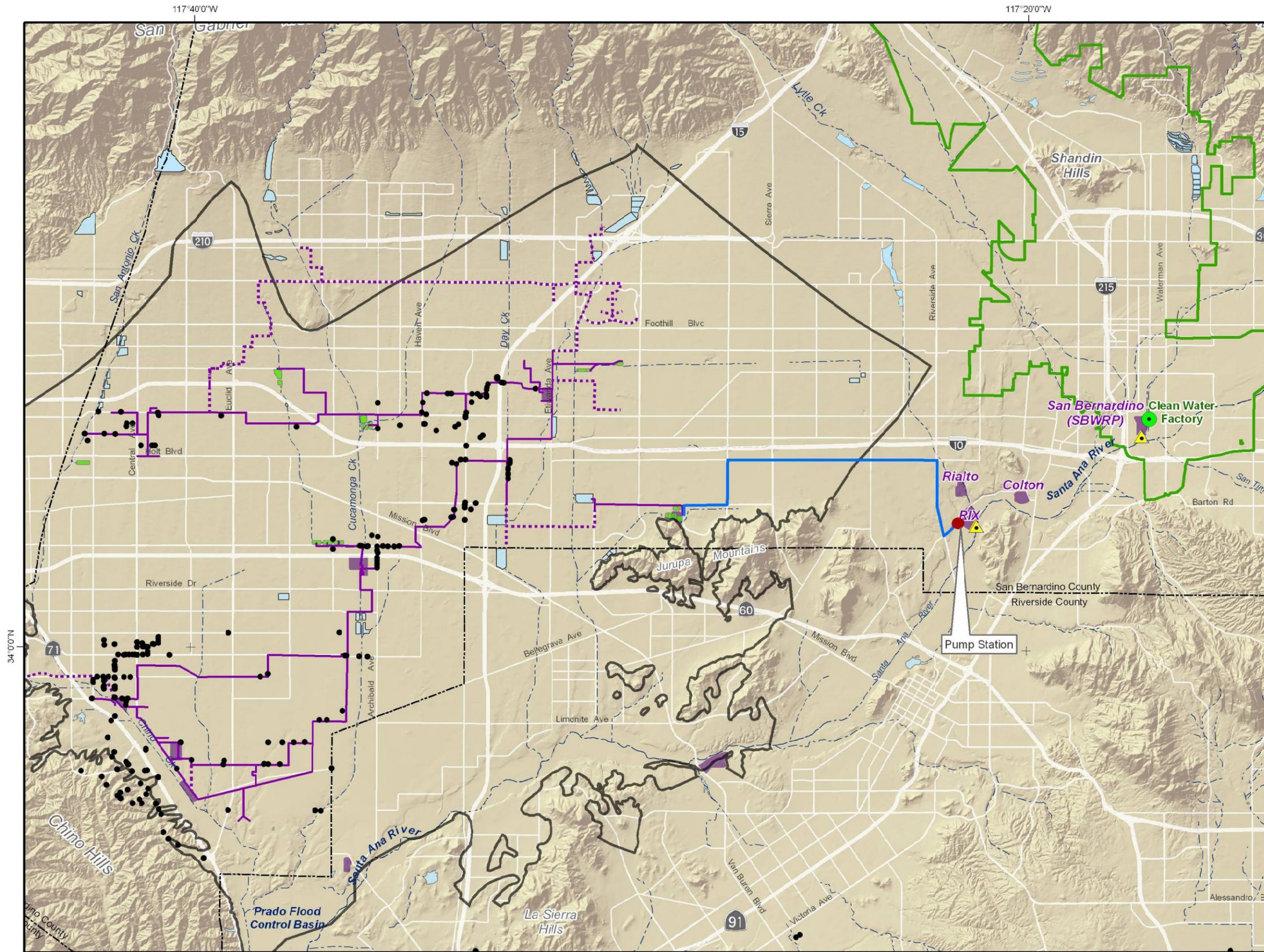


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-  Conveyance Facility Corridor
-  Basin/Spreading Grounds
-  Potential Recycled Water Users
-  Alignment 1
-  Alignment 2
-  Alignment 3

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- Current IEUA Recycled Water Connections
- Proposed Rix to IEUA Recycled Water Pipeline
- Existing IEUA Recycled Water Pipelines
- - - Planned IEUA Recycled Water Pipelines
- Water Reclamation Facility
- ☁ San Bernardino County Flood Control District Recharge Facilities
- ☁ San Bernardino County Flood Control District Recharge Facilities that Recharge Recycled Water
- ~ Streams, Rivers, and Flood Control Channels
- ▲ Discharge Points
- Chino Basin Boundary
- San Bernardino Municipal Water Department Service Area



WILDERMUTH ENVIRONMENTAL INC.

 23692 Birchler Drive

 Lake Forest, CA 92630

 949-420-3030

 www.wildermuthenvironmental.com



Source: Wildermuth Environmental Inc.

CLEAN WATER FACTORY PROJECT
Inter-Agency Conveyance Facilities

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10.1.2 Notice of Intent and Scoping Summary Report

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proposed CPA lease sale area are currently unleased. The estimated amount of resources projected to be developed as a result of the proposed CPA lease sale is 0.460–0.894 billion barrels of oil (BBO) and 1.939–3.903 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of gas.

Alternative B—Exclude the Unleased Blocks Near the Biologically Sensitive Topographic Features: This alternative would offer for lease all unleased blocks within the proposed CPA lease sale area, as described for the proposed action (Alternative A), but it would exclude from leasing any unleased blocks subject to the Topographic Features Stipulation. The estimated amount of resources projected to be developed under Alternative B is 0.460–0.894 BBO and 1.939–3.903 Tcf of gas. The number of blocks that would not be offered under Alternative B represents only a small percentage of the total number of blocks to be offered under Alternative A; therefore, it is estimated that the levels of activity for Alternative B would be essentially the same as those projected for a CPA proposed action.

Alternative C—No Action: This alternative is the cancellation of proposed CPA Lease Sale 235 and is identified as the environmentally preferred alternative.

After careful consideration, the Assistant Secretary—Land and Minerals Management has selected the proposed action, identified as BOEM's preferred alternative (Alternative A) in the CPA 235, 241, and 247 Supplemental EIS. BOEM's selection of the preferred alternative meets the purpose and need for the proposed action, as identified in the CPA 235, 241, and 247 Supplemental EIS, and reflects an orderly resource development with appropriate protection of the human, marine, and coastal environments while also ensuring that the public receives an equitable return for these resources and that free-market competition is maintained.

Record of Decision Availability: To obtain a single printed or CD copy of the ROD for proposed CPA Lease Sale 235, you may contact BOEM, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, Public Information Office (GM 335A), 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard, New Orleans, Louisiana 70123–2394 (1–800–200–GULF). An electronic copy of the ROD is available on BOEM's Internet Web site at <http://www.boem.gov/nepaprocess/>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more information on the ROD, you may contact Mr. Gary D. Goeke, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, 1201 Elmwood Park Boulevard (GM 623E), New

Orleans, Louisiana 70123–2394. You may also contact Mr. Goeke by telephone at 504–736–3233.

Authority: This NOA is published pursuant to the regulations (40 CFR part 1503) implementing the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*).

Dated: January 22, 2015.

Abigail Ross Hopper,
Director, Bureau of Ocean Energy
Management.

[FR Doc. 2015–02272 Filed 2–5–15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310–MR–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Reclamation

[RR03510000, XXXR0680A1,
RX.20116000.0019400]

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project, San Bernardino County, California

AGENCY: Bureau of Reclamation,
Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Bureau of Reclamation and the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department will prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) to evaluate the effects of the Clean Water Factory project. The proposed Clean Water Factory is a water reclamation project to treat and reuse municipal wastewater that is currently discharged to the Santa Ana River. The reclaimed water will be used for groundwater recharge and landscape irrigation. The purpose of the project is to reduce dependence on imported water and establish a reliable, sustainable source of clean water. The public and agencies are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS/EIR and the proposed alternatives.

DATES: Submit written comments on the scope of the EIS/EIR on or before March 9, 2015.

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments to Doug McPherson, Southern California Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation, 27708 Jefferson Avenue, Suite 202, Temecula, CA 92590; or email to dmcpherson@usbr.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doug McPherson, Southern California Area Office general telephone number 951–695–5310; or email dmcpherson@usbr.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is provided pursuant to the

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)), and Department of the Interior regulations for implementation of NEPA (43 CFR part 46).

Background

The San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) is preparing a feasibility study report for approval under the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act of 1992 (Title XVI of Pub. L. 102–575, as amended). If the Bureau of Reclamation determines that the feasibility study report meets the requirements defined at 43 U.S.C. 390h–2, and Congress amends Title XVI to specifically authorize Federal appropriations for the project, it will be eligible for construction funding under the Title XVI program.

The proposed project will install treatment improvements within the existing San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP) to achieve product water quality approved for groundwater recharge by the California Department of Public Health and the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board. New pipelines will convey treated effluent to the existing Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds for recharge into the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin. Recycled water will be delivered for non-potable irrigation uses along the pipeline alignment. The project may also include a pipeline to convey recycled water from the existing Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX) facility to the Inland Empire Utilities Agency service area.

SBWRP effluent is currently discharged to the Santa Ana River through the RIX facility, under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit no. CA8000304. The Santa Ana River is designated critical habitat for the Santa Ana sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*), a fish species listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The existing RIX discharge contributes to dry season baseflows that support the Santa Ana sucker.

Pursuant to California Water Code section 1211, SBMWD filed Wastewater Change Petition WW0059 with the California State Water Resources Control Board to reduce recycled water discharge from the RIX facility to the Santa Ana River by up to 31,500 acre-feet per year. Reductions in RIX discharge will be phased over time through an Adaptive Management Plan to monitor and manage downstream flows, to comply with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act.

Scoping Process

SBMWD filed a Notice of Preparation (California State Clearinghouse no. 2014111012) on November 6, 2014, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (P.R.C. section 21092, C.C.R. section 15082) and held two public scoping meetings on November 19, 2014. To avoid duplication with State and local procedures, we plan to use the scoping process initiated by SBMWD under CEQA. No additional public scoping meetings are planned at this time. The CEQA Notice of Preparation is available at <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/socal/envdocs.html>.

No known Indian trust assets or environmental justice issues are associated with the proposed action, although the pipeline alignments may include areas of low income and minority populations.

Written comments are requested to help identify alternatives and issues that should be analyzed in the EIS/EIR. Federal, State and local agencies, tribes, and the general public are invited to participate in the environmental review process.

Public Disclosure

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Dated: January 27, 2015.

Terrance J. Fulp,

Regional Director, Lower Colorado Region.

[FR Doc. 2015-01942 Filed 2-5-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4332-90-P

INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

[Investigation No. 731-TA-1020 (Second Review)]

Barium Carbonate From China

Determination

On the basis of the record¹ developed in the subject five-year review, the United States International Trade Commission (“Commission”) determines, pursuant to section 751(c)

¹ The record is defined in sec. 207.2(f) of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure (19 CFR 207.2(f)).

of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1675(c)), that revocation of the antidumping duty order on barium carbonate from China would be likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of material injury to an industry in the United States within a reasonably foreseeable time.

Background

The Commission instituted this review on February 3, 2014 (79 FR 6219) and determined on May 9, 2014 that it would conduct a full review (79 FR 29454, May 22, 2014). Notice of the scheduling of the Commission’s review and of a public hearing to be held in connection therewith was given by posting copies of the notice in the Office of the Secretary, U.S. International Trade Commission, Washington, DC, and by publishing the notice in the **Federal Register** on August 1, 2014 (79 FR 44864). The hearing was cancelled at the request of the domestic interested party.

The Commission completed and filed its determination in this review on February 2, 2015. The views of the Commission are contained in USITC Publication 4518 (February 2015), entitled *Barium Carbonate from China: Investigation No. 731-TA-1020 (Second Review)*.

By order of the Commission.

Issued: February 2, 2015.

Lisa R. Barton,

Secretary to the Commission.

[FR Doc. 2015-02341 Filed 2-5-15; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7020-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OMB Number 1117-0024]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection, eComments Requested; Extension Without Change of a Previously Approved Collection Reports of Regulated Transactions Involving Extraordinary Quantities, Uncommon Methods of Payment, and Unusual/Excessive Loss or Disappearance, and Regulated Transactions in Tableting/Encapsulating Machines

AGENCY: Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice.

ACTION: 60-Day notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of Justice (DOJ), Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for

review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 60 days until April 7, 2015.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Evaluate whether and if so how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information proposed to be collected can be enhanced; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

Overview of This Information Collection

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Extension of a currently approved collection.

2. *Title of the Form/Collection:* Reports of Regulated Transactions Involving Extraordinary Quantities, Uncommon Methods of Payment, and Unusual/Excessive Loss or Disappearance, and Regulated Transactions in Tableting/Encapsulating Machines.

3. *The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* Notification of extraordinary quantities, uncommon methods of payment, and unusual/excessive loss or disappearance of listed chemicals and regulated transactions in tableting/encapsulating machines is provided in writing on an as needed basis and does not require use of a form. The applicable component within the Department of Justice is the Drug Enforcement Administration, Office of Diversion Control.

4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:*

Affected public (Primary): Business or other for-profit.

Clean Water Factory Project

SCOPING REPORT



Table of Contents

Affidavit of Mailing	1
Notice of Preparation.....	3
Notice of Preparation - Distribution List.....	28
Notice of Preparation - Mailing Receipts.....	32
Newspaper Notice	46
Scoping Meeting - Power Point Presentation	48
Scoping Meeting - Sign-in Sheets	67
Scoping Meeting - Oral Comments Summary	71
Notice of Preparation - Comments	73



Affidavit of Mailing



Affidavit of Mailing

November 5, 2014

On November 4, 2014, I/We prepared the mailing for the Notice of Preparation for the Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project. A Public Scoping Meeting will be held on November 19th 2014.

For this mailing, one (1) list was compiled:

1. **Distribution List** – Notice of Preparation went out via Fed Ex standard overnight.

On November 5, 2014, I/We finished compiling the mailings. I/We stuffed the envelopes for the Property Owner's List which went out via Fed Ex standard overnight.

Prepared By:



Robert Prasse
Project Manager



Kari Cano
Environmental Planner

Notice of Preparation



NOTICE OF PREPARATION**CLERK OF THE BOARD**

To: Agencies and Interested Parties
From: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
Date: November 5, 2014
Subject: Announcement of:

Received on: 11-6-14
 Remove on: 12-19-14

- 1) **Notice of Preparation** of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project
- 2) **Public Scoping Meeting** to be held on November 19, 2014; and
- 3) **NOP Scoping** Comments due by December 8, 2014.

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) will prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Clean Water Factory Project (proposed Project for CEQA purposes) in San Bernardino County, California. The EIS/EIR will be prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 United States Code [USC] Section 4321 et seq.) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (California Public Resources Code [PRC], Section 21000 et seq.; see also 14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] Sections 15220, 15222 [State CEQA Guidelines]). Reclamation will be the Federal lead agency for purposes of complying with NEPA, and SBMWD will be the local lead agency for compliance with CEQA.

PURPOSE OF THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION: The purpose of a Notice of Preparation (NOP) is to notify responsible and trustee agencies, Federal agencies involved in approving or funding a project, and interested parties that an EIS/EIR will be prepared. The NOP should provide sufficient information about the proposed project and its potential environmental impacts to allow recipients the opportunity to provide a meaningful response related to the scope and content of the EIS/EIR, including the potentially significant and significant environmental issues, reasonable alternatives, and mitigation measures that the responsible or trustee agency will need to have explored in the EIS/EIR (State CEQA Guidelines CCR Section 15082[a][1]).

The Project location, description, and probable environmental impacts of the proposed Project are presented below. An initial study has not been prepared because the EIS/EIR will address all issue areas and it is already known that the proposed Project could have a significant effect on the environment. The EIS/EIR will also include feasible mitigation measures and evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives to avoid or substantially reduce the proposed Project's significant adverse environmental impacts.

The purposes of this NOP are to:

1. Notify the appropriate parties that an EIS/EIR will be prepared for the proposed Project;
2. Briefly describe the proposed Project and the anticipated content of the EIS/EIR;
3. Announce the public scoping meeting to facilitate public input; and
4. Solicit input by from Federal, State, regional, and local agencies, and from interested organizations and individuals, regarding the content and scope of the EIS/EIR, including the alternatives to be addressed and the potentially significant environmental impacts.

1.0 Project Background and Purpose and Need

The SBMWD provides water supply and reclamation, and geothermal heating supply services to its service area, which primarily overlays the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin (Bunker Hill Basin), particularly the Bunker Hill Basin A Management Zone¹. SBMWD relies wholly on groundwater from the Bunker Hill Basin to meet its customers' water demand. Exhibit 1, *SBMWD Service Area and Groundwater Basins*, shows the extent of these features. With over 55 production wells, four (4) water treatment plants for groundwater treatment, and over 700 miles of water supply pipelines, SBMWD has invested significantly in the Bunker Hill Basin, and has a vested interest in maintaining and improving this water supply.

Due to the extended drought in California, limitations on State Water Project (SWP) supplies, the current groundwater depletion of the Bunker Hill Basin, and compliance with SBX-7,² the SBMWD faces the challenge of satisfying its anticipated water demands through innovative solutions, independent of traditional imported water supplies. To meet this challenge, SBMWD commissioned a Recycled Water Planning Investigation Report (PIR) to assess the feasibility of using recycled water to augment its water supply.

SBMWD owns and operates the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP). The SBMWD and the City of Colton are members of a Joint Powers Agency that own and operate the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX) Facility. Currently, the SBWRP treats approximately 22 million gallons per day (mgd) of raw wastewater from the City of San Bernardino, the City of Loma Linda, and the East Valley Water District to secondary standards.³ The SBWRP conveys this secondary-treated effluent to the RIX facility for tertiary⁴ treatment and then discharges it to the Santa Ana River (SAR). The City of Colton conveys an

¹ The Bunker Hill Basin is divided into water quality management zones and the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds are located in Bunker Hill Basin A Management Zone. Identification of this Management Zone is provided to show future water quality comparisons with objectives established by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

² SBX-7 requires urban water retailers to reduce per capita water demands by 10 percent by 2015 and by 20 percent by 2020, with that reduction measured against a specified per capita baseline.

³ California Code of Regulation (CCR), Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3 has two classifications of secondary treated recycled water: disinfected secondary-2.2 and disinfected secondary-23. Section 60301.220 of the CCR defines disinfected secondary-2.2 recycled water as "[...]recycled water that has been oxidized and disinfected so that the median concentration of total coliform bacteria in the disinfected effluent does not exceed a most probable number (MPN) of 2.2 per 100 milliliters utilizing the bacteriological results of the last seven days for which analyses have been completed, and the number of total coliform bacteria does not exceed an MPN of 23 per 100 milliliters in more than one sample in any 30 day period." Section 60301.220 of the CCR defines disinfected secondary-23 recycled water as "[...]recycled water that has been oxidized and disinfected so that the median concentration of total coliform bacteria in the disinfected effluent does not exceed a most probable number (MPN) of 23 per 100 milliliters utilizing the bacteriological results of the last seven days for which analyses have been completed, and the number of total coliform bacteria does not exceed an MPN of 240 per 100 milliliters in more than one sample in any 30 day period."

⁴ CCR, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 3, Section 60301.230 defines disinfected tertiary treated recycled water as follows: "[...]a filtered and subsequently disinfected wastewater that meets the following criteria:

- (a) The filtered wastewater has been disinfected by either:
 - (1) A chlorine disinfection process following filtration that provides a CT (the product of total chlorine residual and modal contact time measured at the same point) value of not less than 450 milligram-minutes per liter at all times with a modal contact time of at least 90 minutes, based on peak dry weather design flow; or
 - (2) A disinfection process that, when combined with the filtration process, has been demonstrated to inactivate and/or remove 99.999 percent of the plaque forming units of F-specific bacteriophage MS2, or polio virus in the wastewater. A virus that is at least as resistant to disinfection as polio virus may be used for purposes of the demonstration.
- (b) The median concentration of total coliform bacteria measured in the disinfected effluent does not exceed an MPN of 2.2 per 100 milliliters utilizing the bacteriological results of the last seven days for which analyses have been completed and the number of total coliform bacteria does not exceed an MPN of 23 per 100 milliliters in more than one sample in any 30 day period. No sample shall exceed an MPN of 240 total coliform bacteria per 100 milliliters".

additional 5.3 mgd of secondary-treated effluent to the RIX facility for tertiary treatment and discharge to the river. RIX currently discharges approximately 31.3 mgd to the SAR.

In the PIR referenced above, a range of recycled water reuse alternatives were developed. These alternatives included a menu of various treatment technologies, conveyance schemes, and reuse. The feasibility of a bounded group of treatment and reuse alternatives was then explored. This investigation led to the selection of a set of options that will be discussed and evaluated in the Draft EIS/EIR. In order to ensure that the potential environmental impacts of all the options are considered, a comprehensive “worst case” approach will be taken in the EIR/EIS to ensure that all areas that could potentially be disturbed by any of the options evaluated would be taken into account.

SBMWD filed a “Petition for Change for Owners of Waste Water Treatment Plants” with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on April 22, 2010 (Petition revised June 7, 2010), pursuant to Water Code Section 1211 (and in accordance with Water Code Sections 461, 13500 *et seq.* and 13575 *et seq.*) to decrease current tertiary-treated discharge from the RIX facility to the SAR from approximately 35.7 mgd (40,000 acre-feet per year) to approximately 11.9 mgd (13,300 acre-feet per year).⁵ The Petition for Change proposes the “reuse of recycled water in [SBMWD’s] service area and the marketing of surplus recycled water to water agencies outside the SBMWD service area.” The “change” that would result from approval of this Petition includes the “place of use” and the “purpose of use” of SBMWD’s existing and future effluent.

Purpose and Need

Southern California is facing an unprecedented water crisis. This crisis stems from the effects of climate change, continuing population growth, severe drought on the Colorado River Basin and the threat of failing levees and endangered species issues in the Bay Delta. These conditions are severely testing the region’s ability to provide clean water, both now and in the future. In its recent Recycled Water Policy statement, the SWRCB encouraged local and regional water agencies to move toward local water sustainability by emphasizing water recycling, water conservation, improved maintenance of supply infrastructure and the capture and use of stormwater and dry-weather urban runoff.⁶

Currently, SBMWD relies completely on groundwater from the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin to meet the water supply needs of its service area. However, the Bunker Hill Basin is presently in a condition of groundwater depletion and future demand is expected to increase over time.

The proposed Project is designed to reduce SBMWD’s dependence on imported water and establish a reliable, sustainable source of clean water. To implement the proposed Project, SBMWD must meet a number of political, technical, regulatory, and other challenges. By meeting these challenges, SBMWD will be positioned to move aggressively towards a more reliable water future.

The identified purpose and need of the Project are as follows:

- **Need** – Increase SBMWD’s water supply reliability and sustainability to meet future projected water demands, in a manner that provides SBMWD and its customers with a safe, reliable, cost-effective water supply, that minimizes existing and potential future supply reliability and system operational risk associated with imported water, regulatory requirements and other factors;

⁵ City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department. (April 22, 2010). “Petition for Change: For Owners of Waste Water Treatment Plants” (WW0059). http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/petitions/2010.shtml. Accessed on March 1, 2012.

⁶ *State Water Resources Control Board Recycled Water Policy*, approved May 14, 2009.

- Purpose – Modify the existing wastewater management system to meet this need.

2.0 Project Description

Project Location

The Project is located within the City of San Bernardino approximately 60 miles east of the City of Los Angeles in the upper SAR Valley Watershed (refer to Exhibit 2, *Regional Location Map*, and Exhibit 3, *Project Vicinity Map*). The proposed facilities would be constructed within the SBMWD service area and would lie above the San Bernardino Basin Area or, more specifically, the Bunker Hill Basin.

The Project area includes the plant boundary of the City's existing San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP) located just north of the confluence of the East Twin Creeks and the SAR at 399 Chandler Place, San Bernardino, California. It also includes the alignments of proposed distribution pipelines which would extend from the SBWRP along existing street and/or flood control channel rights-of-way (ROWS) within the City. These pipelines extend to the Waterman Basin and East Twin Creek Spreading Ground at the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains. Refer to Exhibit 4, *Recycled Water System Conveyance System Alternatives (Southerly Portion)*, and Exhibit 5, *Recycled Water System Conveyance System Alternatives (Northerly Portion)*.

Project Study Area

The study area for this environmental analysis includes areas that may be affected directly, indirectly or cumulatively by implementing the Project. The study area has been broadly defined to ensure evaluation of the potential effects within all areas that would be affected by, and benefit from, implementation of the Project. The scope of the study area varies depending on the impact topic discussed. For example, a discussion of hydrologic impacts may cover impacts that would occur to the Bunker Hill Basin, while noise impacts may be more localized to a particular construction site and its surrounding uses.

Operational impacts and benefits, however, would tend to occur in all geographic subareas under all alternatives. Construction-related impacts related to installation of the approximately 100,000 linear-foot pipeline conveyance system would occur throughout the City of San Bernardino under all Project alternatives, since all four of the proposed pipeline alignment route options are within the City's boundaries (refer to Exhibits 4 and 5).

Note that conveyance alignments, recharge basins and potential recycled water end users are all conceptual, and may be modified through the EIS/EIR process and/or during final design and construction.

Existing Facilities

The existing facilities that are components of the Project are the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP), the Waterman Basins, the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, as well as existing inter-basin facilities that could be used to deliver product water to the Chino Basin (see "Consideration of Project Alternatives" discussion, below). The Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX) tertiary treatment facility is located approximately four miles southwest of the SBWRP along the Santa River. The SBMWD and City of Colton are members of a Joint Powers Agency that owns and operates the RIX facility. Descriptions of these facilities and their respective recharge capabilities will be provided in the EIS/EIR.

Project Description

SBMWD is proposing the Project to reduce its dependence on imported water and to establish a reliable, sustainable source of clean water. The proposed Project will treat effluent from the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP) to a quality approved for recharge as set by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). The treated effluent will be conveyed to the Waterman Basins and the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds. Recycled water spread at these facilities will artificially recharge the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin (Bunker Hill Basin) and, more specifically, the Bunker Hill A Management Zone, as described in the Water Quality Control Plan for the SAR Watershed (Basin Plan). The Project will also treat a side stream of SBWRP effluent to a quality approved for direct use and convey the tertiary treated recycled water to customers that can benefit from a non-potable water supply.

Project Elements

The proposed Project consists of the following key elements (subject to modification through the EIS/EIR and final design process):

- Treatment improvements to the existing SBWRP, which has an annual capacity to produce up to 36,967 acre-feet of secondary effluent;
- Addition of up to 5 mgd of tertiary filtration/disinfection facilities to the SBWRP to provide a source of Title 22 water to parks, golf course and other irrigation users within the SBMWD service area;
- Addition of up to 15 mgd of advanced wastewater treatment to the SBWRP to provide a source of clean water for groundwater replenishment; these treatment units may be phased in 5 mgd increments and could consist of a 5 mgd membrane bioreactor (MBR) expansion, a tertiary filtration process, a nano/reverse osmosis (RO) membrane treatment system and disinfection process using UV/advanced oxidation process (AOP) with post-treatment stabilization;
- A system to convey the recycled water to the Waterman Basins and the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds for surface spreading, and to “target opportunity” customers for direct use applications near, or adjacent to, the conveyance alignment;
- Reduction of up to approximately 22 mgd of treated wastewater discharges into the SAR via the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX) facility, to be beneficially used for groundwater recharge/direct reuse; and
- Future connection of the RIX facility to the Chino Groundwater Basin and the Inland Empire Utility Agency’s (IEUA) non-potable system. Recycled water in excess of SBMWD needs can then be conveyed to the IEUA service area to be used to meet non-potable direct uses and for groundwater recharge in the Chino Basins. Refer to Exhibit 6, *Inter-Agency Conveyance Facilities*.

Specific Project Components

Several different improvement options are identified with respect to water treatment, conveyance systems and pipeline alignments. The option that is ultimately used would be identified as part of final facilities design, after the EIS/EIR is certified and/or approved. In order to ensure that the potential environmental impacts of all the options listed below are considered, a comprehensive “worst case” approach will be taken in the EIS/EIR to ensure that all areas that could potentially be disturbed by any of the options considered below would be taken into account. The specific facilities improvements that would be necessary to implement the Project will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR, including the following:

NOTICE OF PREPARATION/PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE

- Improvement to the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant;
- Alternative conveyance pipeline alignments;
- Reservoir and pump stations associated with the pipeline conveyance system;
- Recharge site improvements; and
- Direct use site improvements, distribution and customers.

Table 1 below provides a brief summary of the estimated length, width and area, and brief description for each alternative alignment. The proposed alignment routes for the conveyance pipelines are illustrated in Exhibit 4, *Recycled Water System Conveyance System Alternatives (Southerly Portion)*, and Exhibit 5, *Recycled Water System Conveyance System Alternatives (Northerly Portion)*. Precise alignments are subject to modification through the EIS/EIR process and final design.

Table 1: Alternative Alignments

Alternative Alignment 1				
Segment Number	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Estimated Area (sq ft)	Description
1	1,400	35	49,000	Twin Creek Channel
5	6,220	34	211,480	Twin Creek Channel, Crossing Streets, Railroad Crossing
10	11,320	34	384,880	Twin Creek Channel, Street Crossing
18	5,600	25	140,000	Twin Creek Channel, Street Crossings, Perris Hill Park
24	10,660	41	437,060	Twin Creek Channel, Street Crossings, Highway SR-210 Crossing, East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds
27	3,260	--	0	Waterman Basins
Total	38,460	--	1,222,420	

Alternative Alignment 2				
Segment Number	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Estimated Area (sq ft)	Description
1	1,400	35	49,000	Twin Creek Channel
2	900	40	36,000	West Orange Show Road
4	7,710	30	231,300	Arrowhead Avenue, Railroad Crossing
8	1,370	65	89,050	West Rialto Avenue
11	7,460	28	208,880	Sierra Way
13	1,930	70	135,100	East Baseline Street
14	1,590	70	111,300	East Baseline Street
17A	4,660	35	163,100	Crestview Avenue
17B	1,100	35	38,500	East 21 st Street and Valencia Avenue
23	10,580	44	465,520	Valencia Avenue, Bridge over Highway 210
26	890	60	53,400	East 40 th Street
27	3,260	--	0	Waterman Basins
Total	42,850	--	1,581,150	

Alternative Alignment 3				
Segment Number	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Estimated Area (sq ft)	Description
1	1,400	35	49,000	Twin Creek Channel
2	950	40	36,000	West Orange Show Road
4	7,710	30	231,000	Arrowhead Avenue, Railroad Crossing
8	1,370	65	45,500	West Rialto Avenue
11	7,460	28	212,750	Sierra Way
13	1,930	70	66,500	East Baseline Street
16	5,310	16	84,000	Waterman Avenue

NOTICE OF PREPARATION/PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE

Alternative Alignment 3 (continued)				
Segment Number	Length (ft)	Width (ft)	Estimated Area (sq ft)	Description
22	10,570	31	323,425	Waterman Avenue, Bride over Highway SR-210
25	1,890	60	54,000	East 40 th Street
26	890	60	27,000	East 40 th Street
27	3,260	--	0	Waterman Basins
Total	42,740	--	1,330,760	

Alternative Alignment 4
Consists of Alternative Alignment 1 plus Alternative Alignment 2

Project Operations

Use of the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds

The following parameters were evaluated for both recharge facilities to determine the maximum recharge potential: effective area, infiltration rate, and maintenance requirements. The total area of the recharge facility, or gross area, is the surface area of the parcels. The effective area is the surface area of the recharge facility available for storing and infiltrating water. The infiltration rate, expressed as feet per day (ft/day) is the spatially averaged rate at which surface water infiltrates on the wetted area of the recharge basins. The long-term infiltration rate was estimated to be 1.5 ft/day. While initial infiltration rates may be significantly higher at startup and for the first few months, the infiltration rate would decrease over time due to the deposition of fine-grained materials at the bottom of the basins. It is assumed that each facility would be offline for two months per year for maintenance activities (maintenance activities for the spreading grounds and the conveyance facilities will be specified and discussed in further detail in the EIS/EIR). Table 2 shows the estimated maximum recharge capacity for each basin.

Table 2: Estimated Recharge Capacity at the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds

Recharge Site	Site Area	Effective Area	Infiltration Rate ¹	Storage Capacity ²	Maximum Recharge Capacity	Maximum Recharge Capacity ³
	(acres)	(acres)	(ft/day)	(acre-ft)	(acre-ft/day)	(acre-ft/year)
Waterman Basins	230	70	1.5	105	105	32,000
East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds	170	93	1.5	180	139	42,100
Total	400	163	--	285	244	74,100

1. This is the estimated average infiltration rate, expressed in feet per day, at which water will infiltrate to the subsurface.
2. For the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, storage capacity is the volume of water that can be stored at an elevation of 3 feet above bottom of basin.
3. This calculation is based on all recharge basins within the spreading facility being online about 300 days or 10 months per year. Annual maintenance of the recharge facility would occur during a 2-month period.

Source:

San Bernardino Municipal Water Department. (2010 November). *Recycled Water Planning Investigation Report*. Prepared by Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.

The proposed recycled water would discharge into these basins when storage capacity is available and not needed for flood control purposes. An agreement between the SBCFCD and the SBMWD that defines the operational requirements as described in the Draft EIS/EIR will have to be developed and executed.

A similar agreement was approved for the *Chino Basin Recharge Master Plan*. This agreement was established between the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Chino Basin Water Conservation District, and Chino Basin Watermaster to govern the operation and maintenance of the Chino Recharge Basin facilities. The agreement states that the priority of use of capacity is first for flood control, second for recharge of native water, and third for recharge of supplement water (i.e., imported water and recycled water). Each of the Parties of this agreement are given the sole authority to determine when their respective facilities are available for recharge of supplemental water and to release water or to order the cessation of the delivery of supplemental water to maintain the full flood control capacity of their facilities. It requires the preparation of a Conservation Plan with a schedule of “conservation pool elevations, or criteria that defines when water can be stored for conservation and when water in conservation must be released to restore the full flood protection capabilities of the basins or allow for facility maintenance and repair, etc.”⁷ This agreement, therefore, defines the parameters of the facilities’ operations. It is anticipated that a similar agreement would be required for the proposed Project.

The EIS/EIR will examine historical data showing the quantity of stormwater that has been captured in the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds. In addition, the EIS/EIR will compare this information with a month-by-month breakdown of the potential recycled water recharge to show that the two purposes will not conflict.

Underground Retention Time

The recycled water would be retained underground in the aquifer for a minimum six-month period before it is extracted as a drinking water supply. Within three months of commencing operations, the Project would be required to demonstrate that the minimum two-month underground retention time to the closest downgradient drinking water well has been met. Evidence of the Project compliance with this requirement would be based on sample results at a monitoring well located or constructed along the flow path at a distance equal to at least three months underground travel time from the nearest downgradient drinking water well. The EIS/EIR will examine the methods that could be employed to evaluate the Project compliance, such as an examination of water quality changes, groundwater tracer studies, modeling, etc.

Diverting Discharge from the Santa Ana River

Currently the SBWRP treats approximately 22 mgd of wastewater to a secondary treatment standard. The plant provides treatment for effluent from the Cities of San Bernardino and Loma Linda, and the East Valley Water District. Secondary-treated effluent is conveyed offsite to the RIX Facility, where it is treated to tertiary standards and discharged to the SAR.

Project Phasing

There are two primary components of phasing with respect to project implementation. The first aspect is the reduction in the amount of water that would be discharged from the RIX facility to the SAR, in million gallons per day (mgd) by phase, through the year 2035, as shown in Table 3 below. The following phasing is conceptual, and may be modified through the EIS/EIR process and consultation with regulatory agencies and other stakeholders. As discussed below under Probable Environmental Impacts, SBWMD proposes an Adaptive Management Plan as part of the required Biological Assessment and

⁷ County of San Bernardino, Department of Public Works – Flood Control. (January 14, 2003). “Agreement for operation and maintenance of Facilities to Implement the Chino Recharge Basin Master Plan”. (Agreement No. 03-0083). Pg. 1, 3, and Attachment No. 1., Pg. 1-2.

regulatory permitting for the Project, to ensure that Project operations avoid or minimize potential impacts to the SAR and associated sensitive habitat and species.

The reduction in discharge is anticipated to occur over five phases, based on the expected need for this water to be recharged over time. The reduction in discharge also has implications for the potential impacts to the Federally-endangered Santa Ana Sucker (SASU), due to changes in the depth and flow characteristics of the SAR resulting from reduced discharge.

Table 3: Potential RIX Discharge Phased Reduction Scenarios

Discharge Scenarios	Year	RIX Discharge (MGD)	RIX Discharge (CFS)
Baseline ¹	2012	34.3	53.0
Phase 1	2015	29.0	44.9
Phase 2	2020	24.8	38.4
Phase 3	2025	20.8	32.2
Phase 4	2030	17.0	26.3
Phase 5	2035	13.4	20.8
Zero ²	2012	6.1 ²	9.5 ²

Source: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

Notes: ¹For the model, baseline discharge was based on average RIX discharge measured on October 18-19, 2012. Average discharge was approximately 53 cfs. MGD=million gallons per day; CFS=cubic feet per second. Annual RIX discharge has varied from 36 MGD in 2010 to 31.3 MGD in 2013.

²Provided for illustrative purposes. Zero discharge is based on zero discharge from RIX, but it is assumed the City of Rialto wastewater treatment plant will continue to discharge approximately 10 cfs to the Santa Ana River, resulting in an existing baseline of approximately 63 cfs for Santa Ana River discharge.

The second component of project phasing relates to the actual facilities improvements that would be needed to accommodate the recharge of the water diverted from the RIX facility into the Bunker Hill Basin. These improvements would include the following: increased water treatment capabilities; the pipes, pumps and reservoirs needed for the conveyance system that would transport water from the SBWRP to the Waterman Basins and the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds; pipelines and associated improvements needed to distribute recycled water to direct use customers; and improvements at the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds.

Improvements to increase water treatment capabilities would generally occur within the boundaries of the existing SBWRP plant site. Improvements for the conveyance system that would connect the SBWRP to the recharge facilities would largely need to be constructed in conjunction with the first phase, although development of some individual facilities (such as the installation of individual water pumps or storage reservoirs located at the north end of the system) may be provided in later phases when required to accommodate the increased conveyance volumes that would occur in the later phases of the Project. Improvements to the recycled water distribution system, all of which are expected to occur either within existing roadways or on the sites of direct use customers, would be provided incrementally over time as the need to serve individual customers arises. The identified improvements to the recharge basins would occur in the first phase. Potential improvements for inter-basin conveyance would be constructed depending on the timing for this product water delivery option.

Construction Activities

Project components would be designed and constructed in accordance with applicable provisions of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Standards, California State Building Code (CBC), and the

Uniform Building Code (UBC). Components of the proposed Project would require general construction activities including grading, excavating, trenching, pipe installation, placement of backfill, and asphalt patching and the construction of reservoirs, pump stations, and other limited structural improvements. Nearly all of the construction would occur within existing public rights-of-way or easements within roadways or other developed areas. Depending on the conveyance system option selected, there would be some construction that would occur along East Twin Creek (within maintenance access areas) and along the east and northeast edges of the Waterman Basin.

Staging Areas

Construction would require, but is not limited to, the following equipment: crane, excavator, backhoe, front-end loaders, dump trucks, diesel generator, water trucks, flat-bed truck, compactors, double transfer trucks for soil hauling, concrete trucks, paving equipment (as needed).

Equipment and vehicle staging would be accommodated either at each construction site, or at a centralized staging area (such as the SBWRP, Waterman Basins or the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds). Staging would be avoided within sensitive areas such as riparian or other habitats.

Construction hours and activities will be consistent with City of San Bernardino regulations and requirements as defined in their Municipal Code (Chapter 8.54, "Noise Control"), except for well drilling (monitoring) which may temporarily exceed allowable construction noise levels. In residential zones, construction would occur between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., and in all other zones between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Consideration of Project Alternatives

The SBMWD currently relies completely on groundwater from the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin to meet the water supply needs of its service area. In the past, this approach has worked well and has allowed the SBMWD to have a very high level of control over its water resources with respect to reliability, cost certainty and water quality (since the entire water source is under the SBMWD's control). However, this approach cannot be sustained, as the Bunker Hill Basin is presently in a condition of groundwater depletion and future demand is expected to increase over time. Approximately 5,000 acre-feet per year of the groundwater pumped by SBMWD must be offset by recharging State Water Project (SWP) water, and the amount of this recharge will increase in the future as the groundwater pumping by the SBMWD and other water purveyors increases.⁸ The supplemental water recharge required for SBMWD to meet future water demands could reach 15,000 to 20,000 acre-feet per year by 2025.

Alternatives to be evaluated in the EIS/EIR will focus on methods to meet future water demands in a manner consistent with the stated Purpose and Need. These alternatives are anticipated to include, but not be limited to:

- 1) No Project Alternative (Conservation Only). This Alternative will evaluate the impacts and water supply implications should SBMWD not proceed with this Project, including consideration of other available water supply options, and increased reliance upon water conservation;
- 2) Reduced Scale Alternative (reduced diversion from SAR). This Alternative will evaluate potential environmental impacts and water supply implications associated with a reduced scale project, such as a configuration delivering the equivalent of Phases 1-3 of the proposed Project;

⁸ City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department, *2010 San Bernardino Valley Regional Urban Water Management Plan* (September 2012), Chapter 10, p. 10-35.

- 3) Alternative Site(s) for recharge and conveyance facilities. This Alternative will evaluate potential alternative sites for water reclamation, potential alternative conveyance alignments, and potential alternative recharge basins;
- 4) In Lieu Alternative. This Alternative, described further below, evaluates the potential environmental impacts and water supply implications of meeting SBMWD's increased water supply needs by reducing the proposed RIX diversion (thereby allowing increased discharge into the SAR), in exchange for a downstream agency or agencies transferring a corresponding amount of SWP water to SBMWD. This Alternative would have the net effect of reducing RIX diversion (increased discharge to SAR) in exchange for increased imported water. A "Hybrid Alternative" variation of this could include In Lieu along with a Reduced Scale Alternative.
- 5) Environmentally Superior Alternative

In Lieu Alternatives

Although there are myriad different methods that could be utilized to provide water "In-Lieu" of water under the SBMWD control, all such methods involve the transport and use of water from outside of the SBMWD service area. The Draft EIS/EIR will consider such "In-Lieu" approaches in the evaluation of alternatives to the proposed Project, including an alternative that would utilize a mix of CWF recharged/recycled water and In-Lieu imported water. In fact, one of the components of the base Project identified in the 2010 Petition for Change, the future connection of the RIX facility to the Chino Groundwater Basin, would support the conveyance of excess water that would otherwise be discharged to the SAR. Such water could then be exchanged for In-Lieu water from other sources.

In-Lieu alternatives to be considered may, at a minimum, include the following improvements:

- Improvements to the WRP that will maintain capacity, ensure compliance with regulations, and reduce operating costs;
- Improvements at the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds to accommodate additional recharge flows; and
- Modifications to SWP turnout facilities to convey in-lieu water.

The evaluation of any Project Alternative would also need to consider the degree to which such alternative(s) would address the following key factors in a manner consistent with Purpose and Need defined above:

- **Source Reliability** - This is an especially critical factor given ongoing drought conditions, the conditions in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Delta, and the future reliability of SWP supplies. A viable In-Lieu alternative would need to be as reliable as the proposed Project, including under dry year conditions. Appropriate arrangements with respect to water banking to provide balance between wet years and dry years may also be needed to ensure reliability. Another element of source reliability is potential vulnerability to regional conveyance infrastructure in the event of a major seismic event.
- **Cost Certainty** - Workable In-Lieu alternatives would be designed to secure fair and predictable water prices. Approaches that are not safeguarded against potential high cost increase in the future, such as those potentially due to energy costs, conveyance charges, and/or treatment requirements, would hinder the SBMWD's ability to adequately serve its customers.
- **Water Quality** - If imported SWP water (which is relatively high in total dissolved solids) is utilized, potential disadvantages as compared to CWF water with respect to regulatory and/or treatment requirements would need to be offset. Reliance upon imported water also exposes

SBWMD and its customers to potential future adverse water quality conditions, dependent on source water quality and in-system water quality degradation throughout the conveyance system.

- **Regulatory Risk From Increased Discharge into the Santa Ana River** – The In-Lieu alternative would likely result in an SBMWD commitment to increased discharge from the RIX Facility into SAR. One of the benefits of the proposed Project is that by reducing the RIX discharge into the Santa Ana River, the SBMWD reduces its liability from future regulations that could result in more strict discharge requirements or limits. In-Lieu alternatives would need to include provisions that would offset such potential liability.

3.0 Probable Environmental Impacts

The EIS/EIR will describe the direct and indirect potentially significant environmental impacts of the proposed Project. The EIS/EIR will also evaluate the cumulative impacts of the Project when considered in conjunction with other related past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects. The probable environmental impacts of the proposed Project are as follows (for each potentially significant impact, the EIS/EIR will identify Project Design Features, existing regulations, mitigation measures and/or Project alternatives that could avoid, reduce or offset potential impacts):

- **Aesthetics:** Temporary construction-related impacts and long-term operational changes in scenic views or visual character of the Project area may occur. The EIS/EIR will address construction-related and operational impacts of SBWRP site improvements, conveyance facilities, and recharge basins, including light/glare effects at construction sites and above-ground facility security lighting. In addition, potential indirect effects will be discussed with respect to RIX discharge changes and effects upon downstream vegetation.
- **Agricultural and Forestry Resources:** The potential for the Project to: convert farmland to non-agricultural uses; conflict with land under Williamson Act Land Conservation Contracts or agricultural zoning, as well as the potential loss or conversion of forestland or timberland will be addressed in the EIS/EIR.
- **Air Quality:** Temporary and short-term increases in pollutant emissions and objectionable odors associated with construction activities, and long-term increases in pollutant emissions during project operation (including stationary and mobile-source emissions) may occur. The Project facilities would be located near multiple sensitive receptor sites, including school sites and residential communities, and development of the proposed Project could result in pollutant emissions from short-term construction activities. The EIS/EIR will quantify potential air quality impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures to reduce exposure of sensitive receptors to below substantial pollutant concentrations. In addition, a localized analysis will be performed in accordance with SCAQMD Localized Significance Thresholds (LST) methodology for construction and operations (stationary sources) for carbon monoxide (CO), nitrous oxides (NO_x), particulate matter less than 10 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM₁₀), and particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM_{2.5}).
- **Biological Resources:** Long-term operational impacts to the Federally-listed Santa Ana sucker (SASU) may result from the phased flow reduction within the Santa Ana River (SAR) that would occur as part of the Project. As such, a Low Flow Study is being prepared to evaluate these potential impacts and provide mitigation. An Adaptive Management Plan is also being prepared pursuant to the findings of the Low Flow Study. In addition, areas downstream of the RIX Facility are within Critical Habitat for the Santa Ana sucker (SASU), least Bell's vireo

(LBV), and southwestern willow flycatcher (SWWF), as identified through USFWS Critical Habitat Mapper. The EIS/EIR will include a Biological Assessment (BA) with appropriate habitat assessments and sensitive species surveys, as well as consultation and coordination with regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, including Section 7 consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and pre-application permit coordination with California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The BA will also address potential impacts to sensitive habitat and species associated with SBWRT site improvements, conveyance facilities, and recharge basins.

- **Cultural Resources:** Project construction could impact portions of historic properties which are adjacent to the existing roadways. In addition, potentially significant archaeological and/or paleontological resources could be inadvertently unearthed or discovered during construction. SBMWD, through Reclamation, will initiate Section 106 consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer as part of the federal consultation process. As such, the proposed Project's potential impacts on archaeological, paleontological, and historic resources will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR.
- **Geology and Soils:** Multiple geological conditions exist within the Project area that warrant thorough geological and soils analysis. The Waterman Basins and the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds are located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone (San Andreas and San Jacinto Faults), as are the far northerly portions of each of the Alternative Alignments of the conveyance pipelines.⁹ As such, it is anticipated that the proposed Project could potentially expose people (i.e., workers) or structures to geologic hazards. The Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone triggers the requirement for geologic analysis prior to development to determine the potential for damage from earthquake faults to occur, to ensure that structures are not built upon active faults and/or that structures are engineered to appropriate seismic building standards.

In addition, the potential for liquefaction and landslide is considered "high" at each of the Project component locations or at some point along their alignments. Also, the Project site, particularly the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, is located in an area that is generally subject to erosion, runoff, and sedimentation due to topography, hydrologic, and geological conditions.

Due to the critical nature of the proposed facilities, impacts related to liquefaction and landslide, erosion, and earthquake hazards (fault rupture, displacement, and strong seismic ground shaking) along the San Andreas Fault will be further analyzed in the EIS/EIR.

Potential soil erosion or loss of topsoil during construction and potential loss of mineral resources will be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.

- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** Temporary construction activities associated with the proposed Project could result in emissions of greenhouse gasses including CO₂, N₂O, and CH₄ emissions. Water treatment processes, including Reverse Osmosis, utilize substantial energy, although only slightly greater than that of imported water. However, due to the existing high energy demands from the UV disinfection process at the RIX facility, operation of the proposed Project would result in decreased energy demands at RIX since it would reduce the quantity of

⁹ California Geological Survey. (1974, July 1). "Special Studies Zones: San Bernardino North Quadrangle". http://www.quake.ca.gov/gmaps/ap/ap_maps.htm. Accessed January 9, 2012.

water being disinfected through the UV process. The EIS/EIR will quantify potential greenhouse gas emissions from construction and operational activities, evaluate potential impacts, and identify appropriate mitigation measures, where necessary, to avoid and/or minimize pollutant emissions.

- **Hazards and Hazardous Materials:** Potential spills of, and exposure to, hazardous materials during construction may occur with Project implementation, due to the use of various products that could contain materials classified as hazardous (including solvents, adhesives, cements, paints, cleaning agents, and degreasers), as well as fuels such as gasoline and diesel used in heavy equipment and other construction vehicles. Operation of the proposed SBWRP improvements and recycled water recharge facilities includes the use of hazardous chemicals. In addition, based on CalEPA data sources, there are multiple hazardous materials sites immediately adjacent to the Project area, particularly along the proposed alignments of the conveyance pipelines. Therefore, additional analysis of the anticipated impacts relative to hazardous waste and materials will be provided in the EIS/EIR. The Project's potential to impair implementation of an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan will also be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.
- **Hydrology and Water Quality:** Long-term hydrology and water quality impacts may result with Project implementation, as discussed below:

Water Quality: During operation, the Project will generate a brine waste stream (i.e., salts). The disposal route anticipated for SBWRP brine would be the Inland Empire Brine Line, which has an existing connection point at the SBWRP. While SBWMD in 1993 purchased 2.5 mgd of capacity in the Inland Empire Brine Line and had the pipeline extended to the SBWRP, it is anticipated that the SBMWD's Inland Empire Brine Line capacity may be a constraint on the advanced treatment capacity at the SBWRP. As such, the EIS/EIR will evaluate the Project's capacity requirements and determine mitigation to reduce potentially significant impacts related to the potential exceedance of SBMWD's Inland Empire Brine Line capacity.

Water recycling criteria provided in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 22 establish standards for the water quality of, or levels of constituents in, recycled water and provide criteria for treatment processes, distribution, and use areas to ensure the use of recycled water is safe in terms of public health. The EIS/EIR will describe the recycling criteria expressed in the CCR and the Basin Plan (as well as proposed CDPH groundwater recharge regulations) and their relevance to the Project, and will include contingency planning, sampling and monitoring, water quality, and retention time requirements, in addition to the anticipated geohydrology that would result from operation of the groundwater recharge.

The EIS/EIR will also address water quality criteria established through the 1969 Western Judgment. The Riverside Narrows and Prado Dam, which are located downstream of the RIX Facility where the proposed reduction would occur, are locations with surface water flow and surface water quality requirements stipulated by the Judgment. The water quality objectives are set forth by the Santa Ana Watershed Water Quality Control Plan (i.e., Basin Plan). The EIS/EIR will describe these objectives and their relevance to the proposed Project. The EIS/EIR will also evaluate the Project's potential to impact groundwater quality. Until such analysis is provided in the EIS/EIR, impacts to water quality standards and waste discharge requirements are considered potentially significant.

Groundwater supplies: The Project's effect on surface water availability in the SAR and groundwater pumping rights in the upper SAR Watershed will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR, including an analysis of any related mitigation measures, if necessary. In addition, the potential cumulative effect of recharge of recycled water in these basins in combination with imported water recharge and stormwater capture will be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.

Drainage patterns: The Project proposes to use the existing Waterman Basins (an existing off-creek conservation facility connected to the Waterman Canyon Creek) and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds (a flow-through facility on East Twin Creek) for recharge of recycled water. Discharging recycled water would alter the quantity and flow of water in these facilities. As such, site improvements will be needed at their various outlet structures. The EIS/EIR will determine if impacts associated with an increase in erosion or siltation would occur, and will also analyze the amount and timing of supplemental water that could be recharged without interference with flood control functions. Further analysis of hydrological impacts will be conducted in the EIS/EIR.

100-year flood hazard: The Project site (i.e., the improvements within the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds) is partially located within a 100-year flood hazard area, as delineated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). While it is anticipated that the proposed improvements would accommodate the 100-year flood flows, potentially significant impacts are assumed until additional analysis of impacts associated with redirection of flows within the 100-year floodplain is provided in the EIS/EIR.

Inundation by mudflow: A large swath of the northern portion of the City is designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ), which lends itself to an increased potential for sediment/debris concentrations following storm events. Following a mudflow event, the basins/spreading grounds may be compromised until they are cleared, and recycled water would need either to be conveyed to direct users or discharged to the RIX Facility. The EIS/EIR will more closely examine past occurrences of mudflows along the Waterman Canyon Creek and East Twin Creek, and will discuss the potential for hyper-concentrated sediment flows to occur.

- **Land Use and Planning:** Portions of the SAR downstream of the RIX Facility, where a reduction in discharges is proposed, are either covered by the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) or the Santa Ana Sucker (SASU) Conservation Program for the SAR. The Santa Ana Sucker Conservation Program has been in effect since 2000 and was developed by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). It is being implemented by SAWPA and eight other participants, including SBMWD. The RIX Facility falls within the boundaries of the Santa Ana Sucker Conservation Program. SBMWD, as a participant in this program, is well aware of the presence of essential habitat for SASU downstream of the RIX Facility. As such, the Project has the potential to result in a significant impact to the existing conservation program. The EIS/EIR will address other related land use and planning programs, including consistency with adopted water supply plans, and land use/planning implications of proposed improvements at the SBWRP, recharge basins and related facilities.
- **Noise:** Noise associated with Project construction would occur over the short term. Construction noise for the proposed facilities would be generated by construction equipment, including trucks, backhoes, excavators, and other associated equipment, and may impact nearby sensitive receptors (such as schools and residences). Construction of the conveyance

pipeline would involve minor construction (trenching in paved and unpaved areas) that would be very limited in duration. Operation of the proposed SBWRP improvements would result in noise from the new pump stations. Noise from the conveyance pipelines, and recharge sites would be nearly non-existent. The EIS/EIR would include an evaluation of potential noise impacts, focusing on short-term construction noise (including truck hauling) and groundborne vibration, and long-term operations related to noise from the pump stations, and would specifically address impacts associated with the Project on noise-sensitive land uses both within the Project site and along existing offsite roadways where traffic would be generated.

- **Public Services (Including Parks):** The Project proposes treatment improvements to the existing SBWRP and a conveyance system to the Waterman Basins, East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, and customers for direct use applications. It does not include housing and therefore, would not increase the demand for parks. Direct use sites, including parks which presently operate independent of recycled water supplies, would need to implement site improvements to comply with reuse regulations. Park sites using recycled water would be required to install dual plumbing and may need to control recycled water onsite through drainage improvements. These improvements would require construction activities which may generate potentially significant environmental impacts. Because these improvements are included in the Project Description, their impacts will be evaluated further in the EIS/EIR. In addition, potential project impacts with respect to fire and police protection, schools and other public facilities would also be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.
- **Socioeconomics (Including Population, Employment and Housing):** Temporary and permanent increase in local/regional employment, increased need for housing or potential displacement of housing or persons, and inducement of substantial population growth associated with project implementation will be evaluated in the EIS/EIR.
- **Transportation/Traffic:** The Project is not considered a trip-generating project; however, temporary construction-related traffic impacts relative to levels of service standards and inadequate emergency access may occur. Therefore, further analysis will be conducted in the EIS/EIR.
- **Utilities and Service Systems:** The proposed Project would not “require” or “result” in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities. Rather, the Project, itself, proposes various improvements to treat, convey and recharge recycled water, and would help offset future expansion needs of the RIX tertiary treatment facility. The Project would include proposed stormwater drainage facility improvements including rehabilitating or replacing the outlet valves from each cell (i.e., sub-basin) within the Waterman Basins, repairing the internal berms between cells within the East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, adding level transmitters to each cell and telemetry, performing weed abatement, and adding erosion control near the outlet of the recharge distribution pipeline. In addition, park sites using recycled water would need to control recycled water onsite through drainage improvements. The EIS/EIR will include a comprehensive review of existing conditions, potential impacts related to these drainage facilities, and would recommend mitigation measures to reduce the level of significance, as necessary.

With regard to wastewater treatment requirements, SBMWD will require multiple permits from the Santa Ana RWQCB to implement the proposed Project. Permits will include requirements from the California Department of Public Health and compliance with the Santa

Ana Watershed Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). RWQCB issues two main types of permits to agencies to operate wastewater treatment plants: Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) and/or Water Recycling Requirements (WRR). WDRs are issued to regulate the discharge of wastes to waters of the State. WRRs regulate reuse and its potential impact to regional water quality that affect the underlying groundwater aquifer. Another type of recycling permit issued by the RWQCBs is a Master Recycling Requirements (MRR) permit. MRR permits allow agencies to distribute recycled water to various users without separate user recycling requirements from the RWQCB. If the RWQCB determines that a proposed recycled water reuse project has the potential to impact public health, safety, or welfare, it will consult with the CDPH and consider its recommendations when issuing WRRs and MRRs. It is anticipated that the proposed Project would obtain such permits to meet the RWQCB's regulatory requirements and would comply with the future criteria and guidelines established by the RWQCB and CDPH through the permitting process. Further details regarding permit requirements for wastewater treatment will be analyzed in the EIS/EIR.

In addition, potential project impacts associated with landfill capacity and compliance with federal, state and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste will also be addressed in the EIS/EIR.

- **Environmental Justice:** Due to the presence of minority and low-income populations in the Project area (according to the U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census¹⁰), disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low-income populations may occur with Project implementation, the analysis of which is required by NEPA. The EIS/EIR will conduct a demographic analysis of these populations both within proximity to the proposed Project and living in other areas that would be serviced by the Project, provide graphical representations of their locations, and evaluate and provide mitigation for any potential disproportionately high and adverse impacts to minority and low-income populations.
- **Growth Inducement:** Potential growth-inducing impacts may results from project construction, including substantial new temporary employment opportunities.

These issue areas will be discussed further in the EIS/EIR, and mitigation measures will be recommended wherever reasonable and feasible to reduce potentially significant impacts.

4.0 Scoping Meeting

A public scoping meeting will be held on **November 19, 2014**, at two different times for the convenience of interested parties - one from 2 to 4 PM and one from 6 to 8 PM (it is only necessary to attend one of the scoping meetings, as they will have the same information and purpose).

Scoping Meeting Information

Wednesday, November 19th, 2014
2-4 PM and 6-8 PM

San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District

380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Phone: (909) 387-9200
www.sbvmd.com

¹⁰ U.S. Census Bureau website, <http://factfinder2.census.gov/> accessed 4-22-14.

The scoping meeting will include a brief presentation regarding the proposed Project, followed by an open house format workshop with information stations addressing various aspects of the Project, Environmental Issues, and the Process. Attendees will be provided an informational packet, will have the opportunity to ask questions at each workshop station, and will be provided with a comment card to submit to SBMWD prior to the close of the public review period.

If special assistance is required to participate in the public scoping meetings, please contact us as far in advance as possible to enable SBMWD to secure the needed services (contact information is provided below). If a request cannot be honored, the requestor will be notified. A telephone device for the hearing impaired (TDD) is available at 916-989-7285.

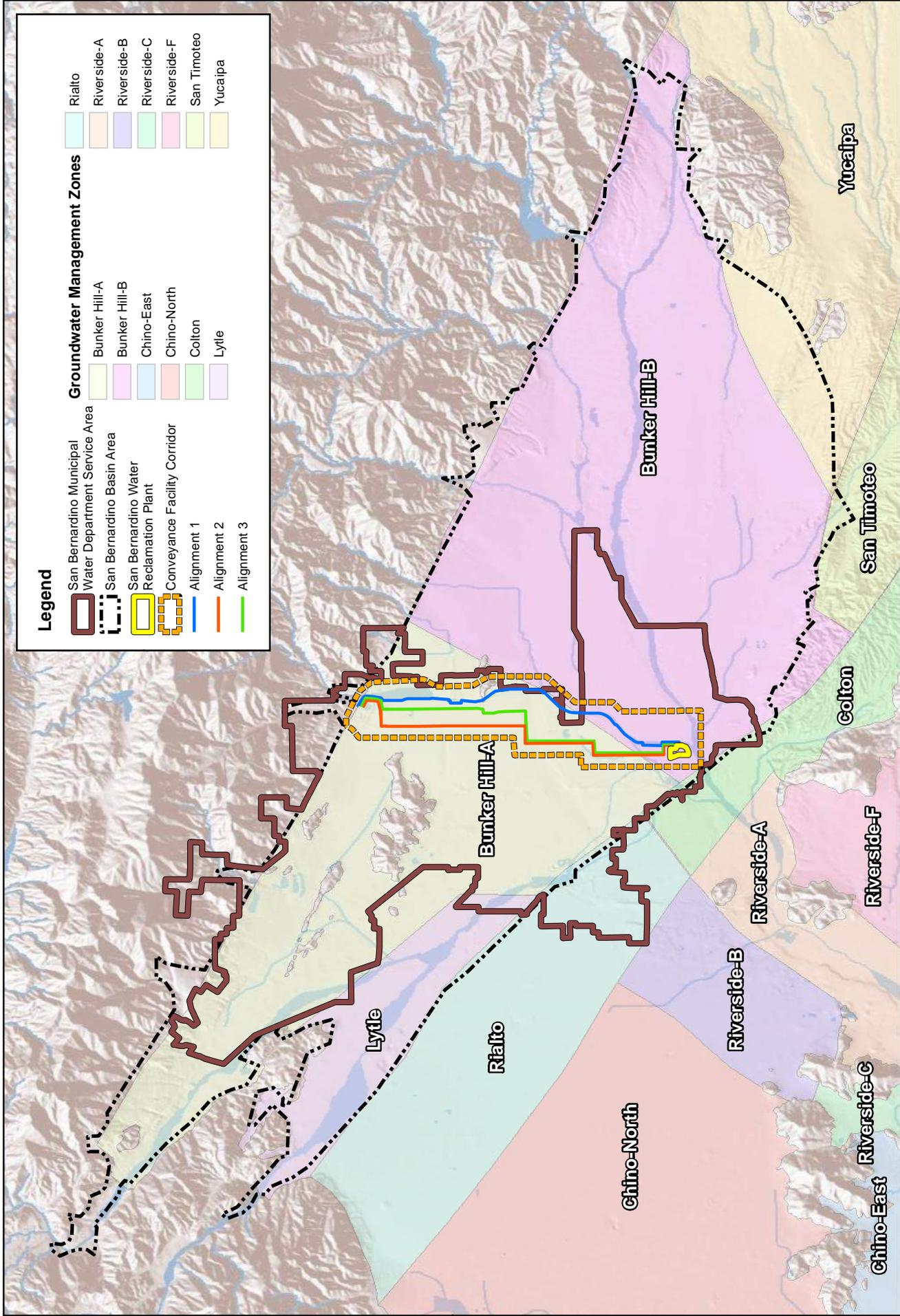
5.0 Comments

This NOP is being circulated for a 30-day public comment period, beginning on November 6, 2014, and ending on December 8, 2014. Written or oral comments on the proposed content and scope of the EIS/EIR can be provided at the public scoping meeting, or written comments may be provided directly to Reclamation or SBMWD. Comments must be ***received no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 6, 2014.*** Agencies that will need to use the EIS/EIR when considering permits or other approvals for the proposed Project should provide the name of a contact person, as well as any specific requirements or recommended mitigation measures or alternatives necessary to satisfy the agency's respective permit/approval process. Comments provided by e-mail should include the name and address of the sender. Please send all written and/or e-mail comments to one of the following:

John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408
909-384-5108
John.Claus@sbmwd.org

Before including your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can request in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, Reclamation and SBMWD cannot guarantee that this will be possible.

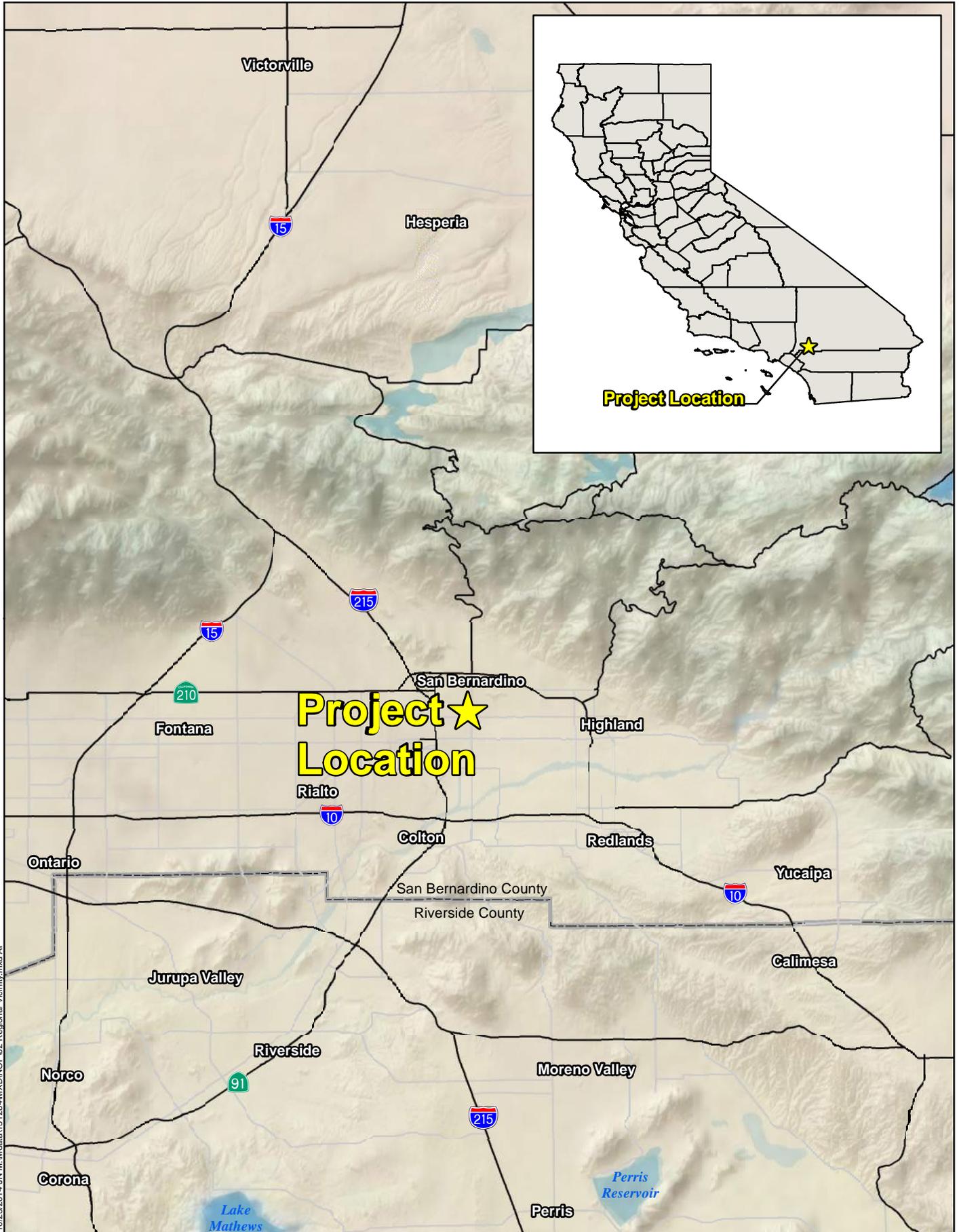
All comments received during the public comment period will be considered and addressed in the EIS/EIR, which is anticipated to be available for public review in mid 2015.



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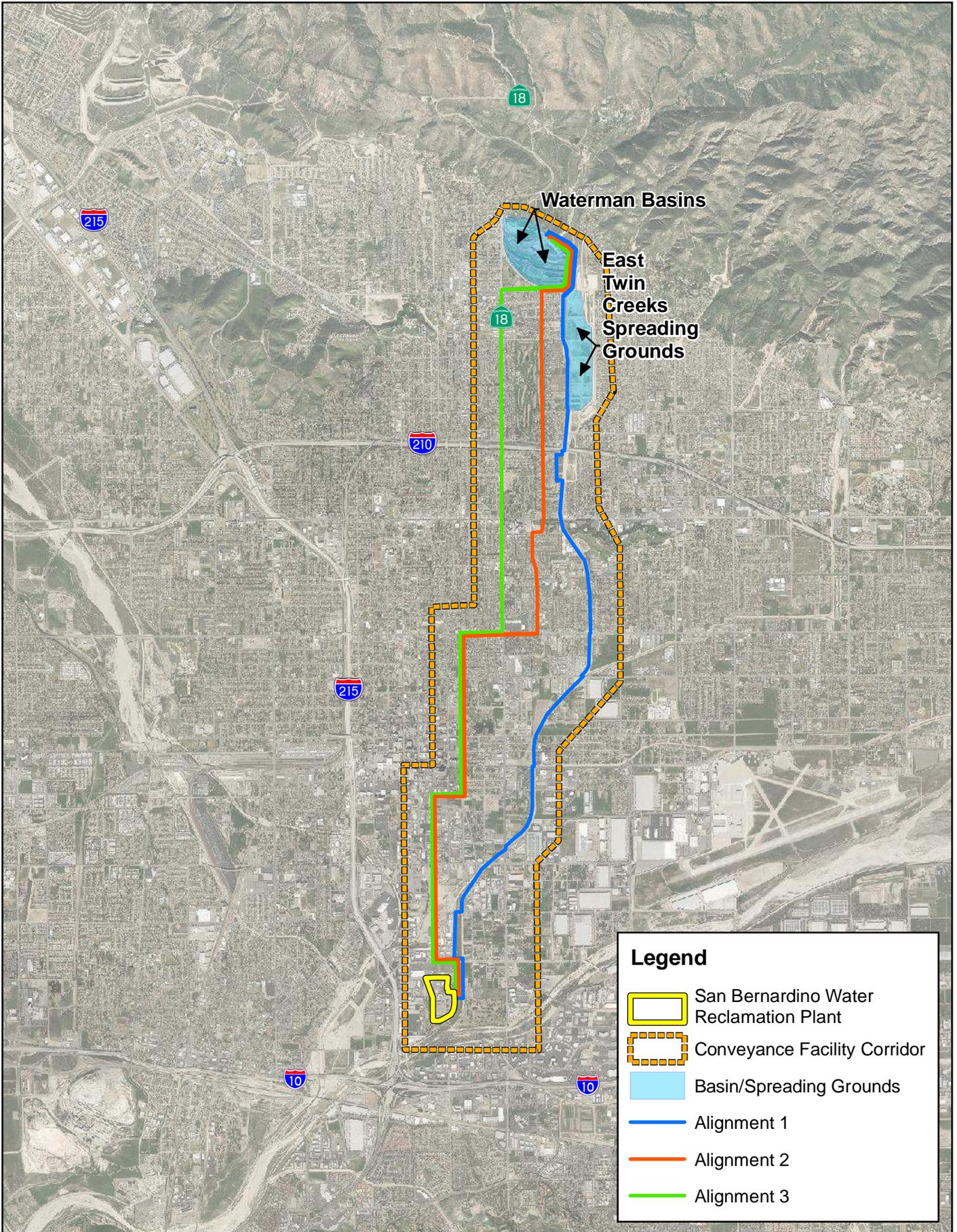
SBMWD Service Area and Groundwater Basins





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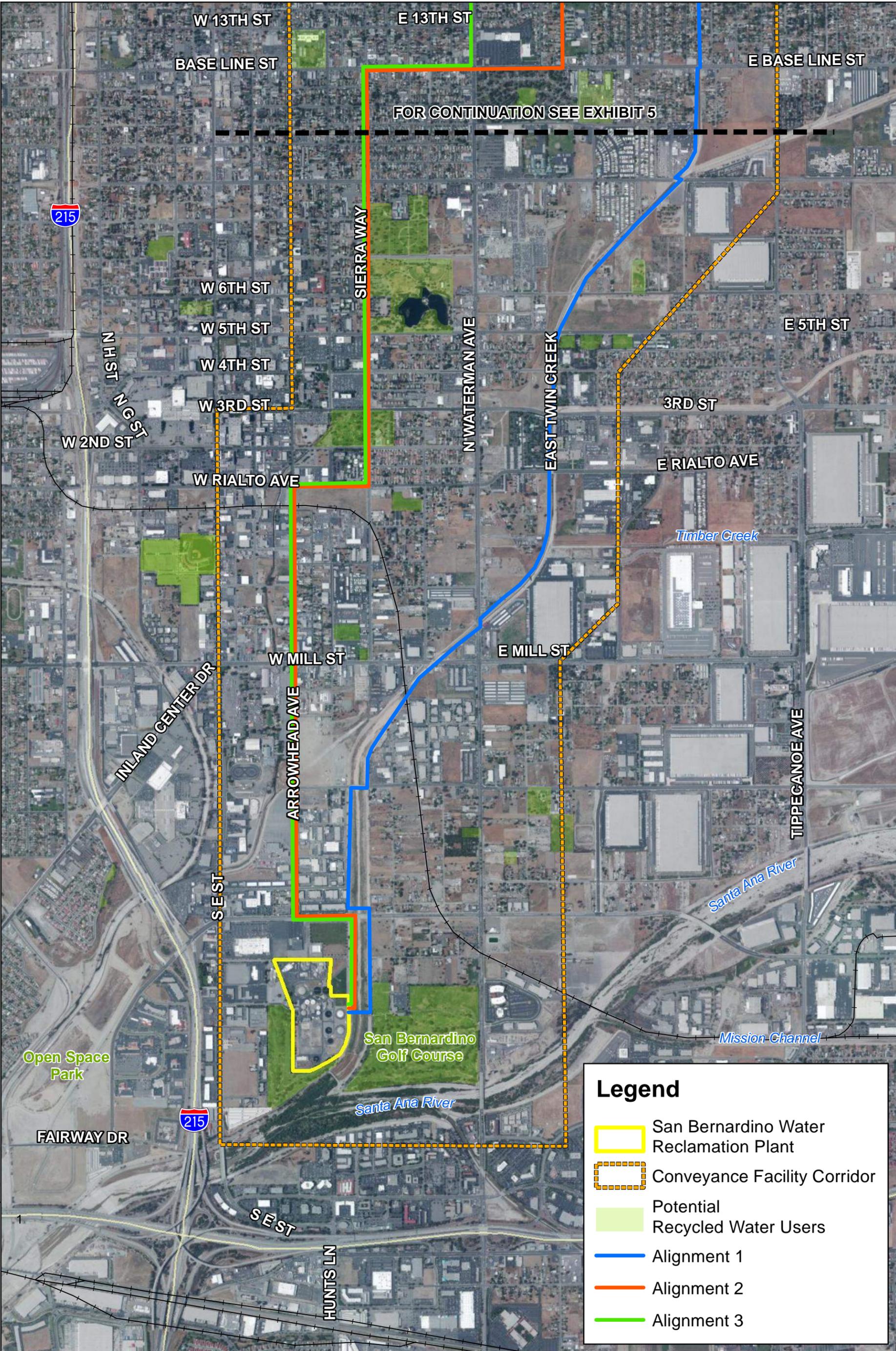


Legend

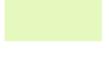
-  San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant
-  Conveyance Facility Corridor
-  Basin/Spreading Grounds
-  Alignment 1
-  Alignment 2
-  Alignment 3

10/23/2014 JUN M:McAra(131284)MNDNOP03 Project_Vicinity.mxd KONELL

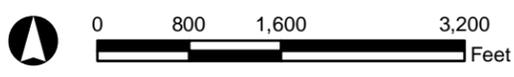




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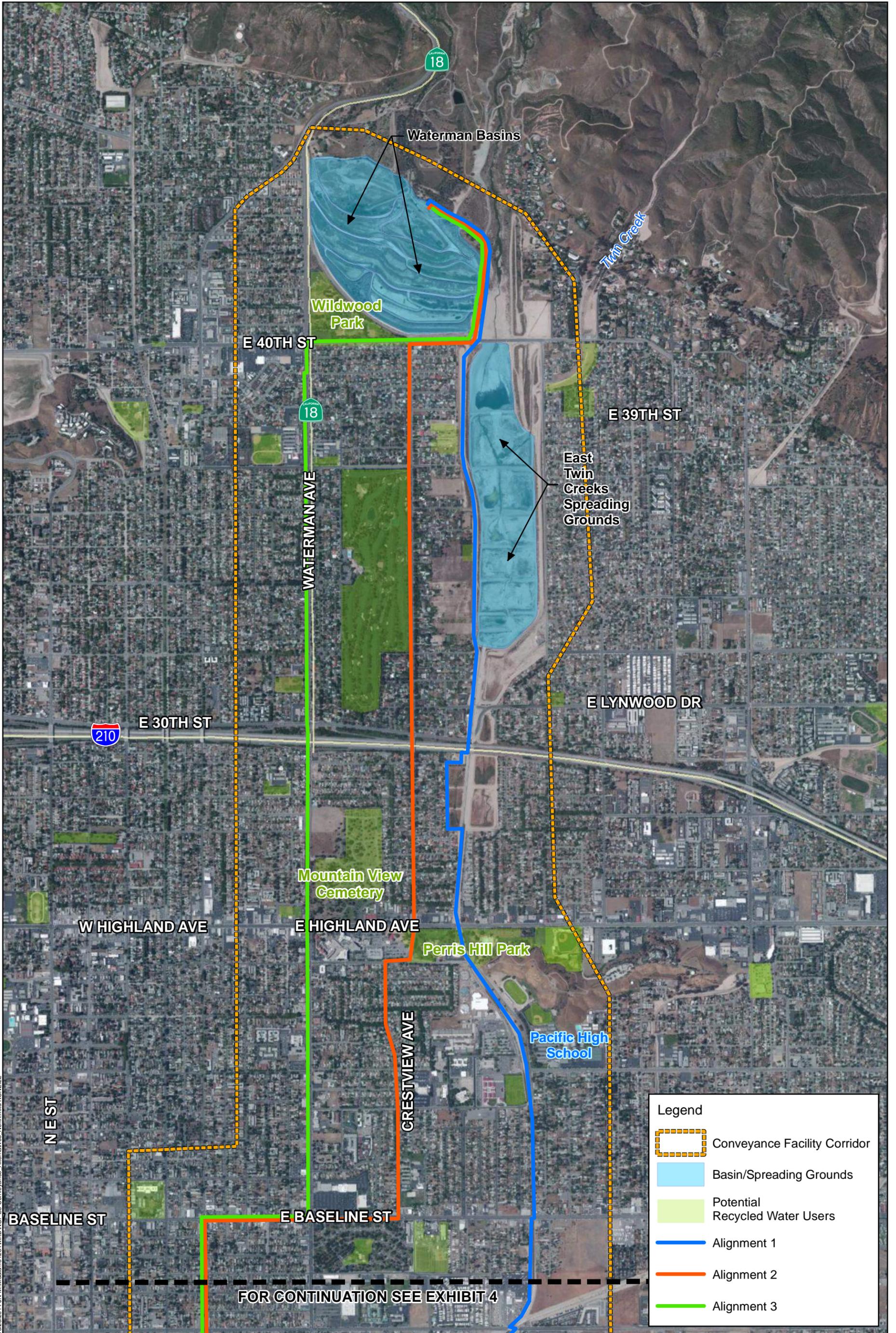
-  San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant
-  Conveyance Facility Corridor
-  Potential Recycled Water Users
-  Alignment 1
-  Alignment 2
-  Alignment 3

10232014_JN_M:\Data\131284\MXD\NDF04_Conveyance_Alternatives_South.mxd KOWELL

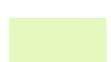


Source: ESRI World Imagery

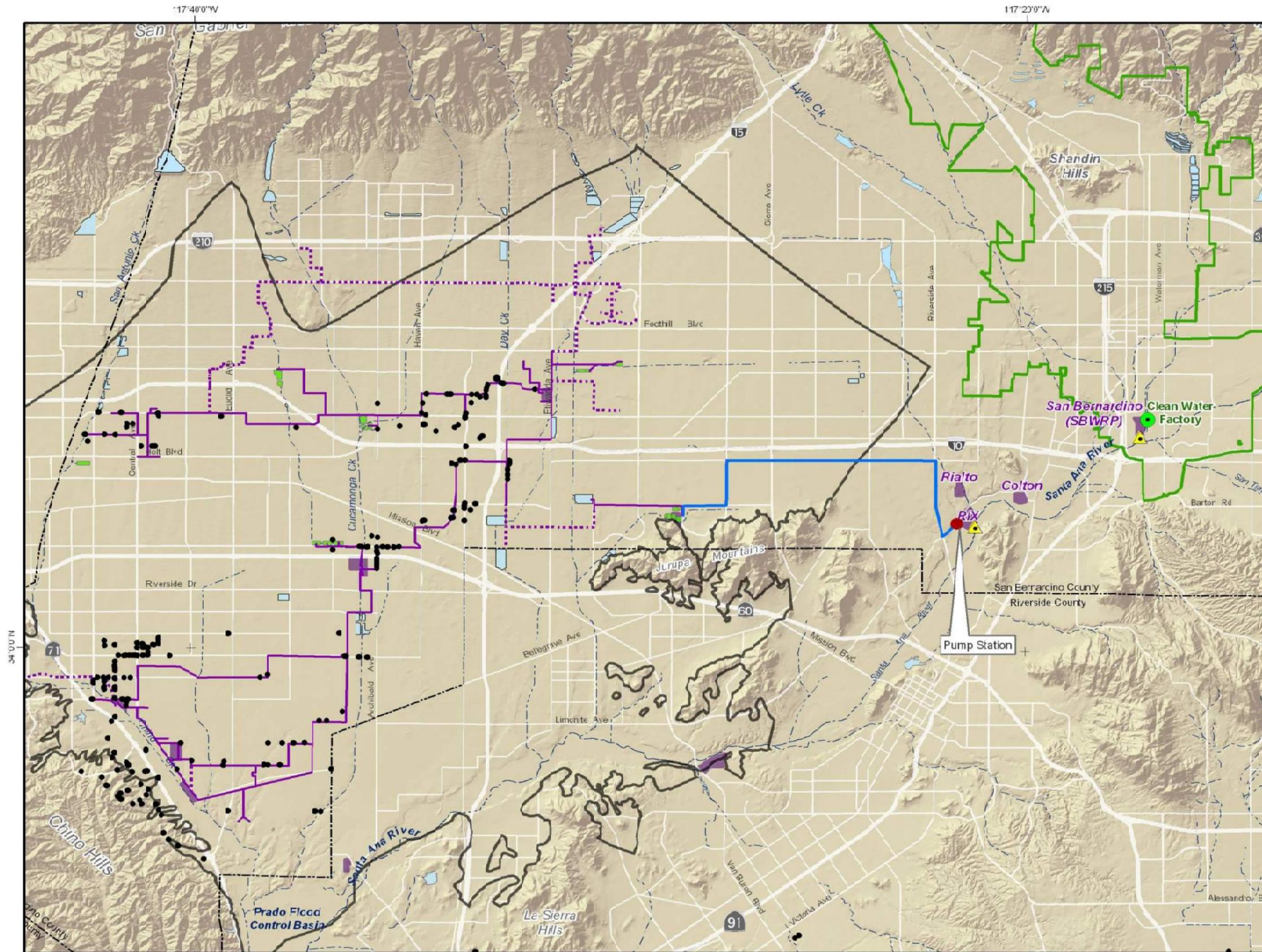
CLEAN WATER FACTORY PROJECT
 Recycled Water System
 Conveyance System Alternatives (Southerly Portion)



Legend

-  Conveyance Facility Corridor
-  Basin/Spreading Grounds
-  Potential Recycled Water Users
-  Alignment 1
-  Alignment 2
-  Alignment 3

10232014_JN_M:\Mdata\131284\MXD\NORP\05 Conveyance Alternatives_North.mxd KONEILL



- Current IEUA Recycled Water Connections
- Proposed Rix to IEUA Recycled Water Pipeline
- Existing IEUA Recycled Water Pipelines
- - - Planned IEUA Recycled Water Pipelines
- Water Redamation Facility
- San Bernardino County Flood Control District Recharge Facilities
- San Bernardino County Flood Control District Recharge Facilities that Recharge Recycled Water
- Streams, Rivers, and Flood Control Channels
- ▲ Discharge Points
- Chino Basin Eoundary
- San Bernardino Municipal Water Department Service Area



WILDERMUTH ENVIRONMENTAL INC.
 23692 Birchler Drive
 Lake Forest, CA 92630
 949.420.3030
 www.wildermuthenvironmental.com



CLEAN WATER FACTORY PROJECT
Inter-Agency Conveyance Facilities

Notice of Preparation Distribution List



FEDERAL

Bureau of Reclamation, Lower
Colorado Region
27708 Jefferson Ave. Suite 202
Temecula CA 92590
Doug McPherson, Env. Specialist

U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Fish & Wildlife Services
777 E Tahquitz Canyon Way
Suite 208.
Palm Springs CA. 92262
Attn: Ken Corey

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
913 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, CA 90053
Attn: Dan Swenson

STATE

California Air Resource Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812-2815
Attn: Chief Executive Officer

California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
3602 Inland Empire Blvd.
Ste. C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
Attn: Jeff Brandt

California Geological Survey
801 K Street, MS12-30
Sacramento, CA 95814

Caltrans District 8
Intergovernmental Review
464 W. Fourth St., 6th Fl. MS 722
San Bernardino, CA 92401-1400

Department of Water Resources
1020 Ninth Street, Third Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Executive Director

Native American Heritage
Commission
915 Capital Mall, Rm. 364
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: Environmental Specialist

Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816
Attn: State Historic Preservation
Officer

Regional Water Quality Control
Board
Santa Ana Region
3737 Main St., Ste. 500
Riverside, CA 92501-3339
Attn: Regional Planning Programs

State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth St.
Sacramento, CA 95812

State of California
Department of Parks &
Recreation

Inland Empire District
1879 Jackson St.
Riverside, CA 92504-5526

State of California
Dept. of Water Resources
1416 Ninth St.
Sacramento, CA 94236
Attn: State Water Project Analysis
Office

Southern California Coastal
Water Project (SCCWRP)
3535 Harbor Blvd #110
Costa Mesa Ca 92626

SWRCB Division of Water Rights
1001 I Street, 4th Street
Sacramento Ca, 95814
Barbara Evoy, Deputy Director
Barbara.Evoy@waterboards.ca.gov

LOCAL

Chino Basin Watermaster
9641 San Bernardino Road
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
Attn: Peter Kavounas, General
Manager

City of Loma Linda
Community Development Dept.
25541 Barton Rd.
Loma Linda, CA 92354
Attn: Konrad Bolowich

City of Loma Linda
Public Works Dept.
25541 Barton Rd.
Loma Linda, CA 92354
Attn: T. Jarb Thaiperjr

City of Riverside
Community Development
Department
3900 Main Street
Riverside, CA 92501
Attn: Al Zelinka, Director

City of Redlands
Community Development Dept.
210 E. Citrus Ave.
Redlands, CA 92373
Attn: Oscar Orci , Director

City of Redlands Municipal
Utilities & Engineering Dept.
35 Cajon St.
Redlands, CA 92374
Attn: Fred Mousavipour, Dir.

City of Yucaipa
Community Development Dept.
34272 Yucaipa Boulevard
Yucaipa, CA 92399
Attn: Joe Lambert, Director

City of Rialto
150 S. Palm Ave.
Rialto, CA 92376
Attn: Gina Gibson, Planning
Manager

City of Grand Terrace
Public Works Dept.
22795 Barton Road
Grand Terrace, CA 92313
Attn: Richard Shields, Director

City of Highland
Community Development Dept.
26985 Baseline
Highland, CA 92346
Attn: John Jaquess, Director

City of Highland Public Works
Department
26985 Baseline
Highland CA. 92346
Attn: Ernie Wong, Director.

City of Colton
Dev. Services Dept.
650 N. La Cadena Drive
Colton, CA 92324
Attn: Mark Tomich, AICP
Development Services Director

City of Colton
Public Works Dept.
160 S. 10th Street
Colton, CA 92324
Attn: Amer Jaker
Public Works & Utility Services
Dept.

County of Orange
Public & Developmental Services
300 N Flower Street
Santa Ana, CA 92703

County of San Bernardino
Environmental Health Services
385 N. Arrowhead Ave.
San Bernardino, CA 91415-0160
Attn: Program Manager, Land
Use Program

County of San Bernardino
385 N. Arrowhead Ave., 1st Fl.
San Bernardino, CA 92415
Attn: Land Use Services Division

County of San Bernardino
Public Works/ Transportation/
Food Control
825 E. Third Street
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0835
Attn: Vana Olsen, Director

County of San Bernardino
Regional Parks Department
777 East Rialto Ave.
San Bernardino, CA 92415
Attn: Jim Canaday

County of San Bernardino
Solid Waste Mgmt. Div.
222 W. Hospitality Lane, 2nd Fl.
San Bernardino, CA 92415
Attn: Nancy Sansonetti, Principal
Planner/Chief Planning &
Permitting Section

CSUSB
5500 University Pkwy.
San Bernardino, CA 92407
Attn: Dr. Al Karnig, President

East Valley Water District
31111 Greenspot Road
Highland, CA 92346
Attn: John Mura, GM/CEO

Inland Empire Utilities Agency
6075 Kimball Ave.
Chino, CA 91710
Attn: Joe Grindstaff, Chief
Executive Officer/District
Manager

Omnitrans
1700 W. Fifth St.
San Bernardino, C A92411
Attn: General Manager

Orange County Public Facilities &
Resources
300 N. Flower St., 7th Fl.
Santa Ana, CA 92703-5000

Orange County Water District
18700 Ward St
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-8300
Attn: District Manager

Riverside Highland Water
Company
12374 Michigan St.
Grand Terrace, CA 92313
Attn: Don Hough

Riverside – Corona Resource
Conservation District (RCRCD)
4500 Glenwood Dr.
Riverside, CA 92501
Kerwin Russell
SWRCB Division of Water Rights

Riverside County FCWCD
1995 Market St.
Riverside, CA 92501
951-955-1200

Riverside Public Utilities
Water Resources
3750 University Ave.
Mission Square Bldg, 3rd Floor
Riverside, CA 92501
Attn: David A. Garcia
Water Quality Manager

San Bernardino Associated
Governments
1170 W. 3rd St.
San Bernardino, CA 92410-1715
Attn: Director of Planning &
Programming

San Bernardino Valley Water
Conservation District
1630 West Redlands Bl., Ste. A
Redlands, CA 92373

San Bernardino Valley Municipal
Water District
380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408
Attn: Doug Headrick, GM

Santa Ana Watershed Project
Authority
11615 Sterling Ave
Riverside, CA 92503

SCAQMD
21865 E. Copley Dr.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4182
Attn: CEQA Section

SCAG
818 W. 7th St., 12th Fl.
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Attn: Manager of Environmental
Planning
Southern California Edison
1351 E. Francis St.
Ontario, CA 91761-5796

Southern California Gas Co.
Technical Services
1981 W. Lugonia Ave.
Redlands, CA 92374-9796
Attn: Supervisor

Verizon
1400 E. Phillips Blvd.
Pomona, CA 91766
Attn: Mr. Raul Chavez, Engineer

West Valley Vector Control
District
Comm Outreach Coordinator
1295 East Locust St.
Ontario, CA 91761

West Valley Water District
855 W. Base Line Road
Rialto, CA 92377
Attn: Anthony W. Araiza,
General Manager

Western Municipal Water District
14205 Meridian Parkway
Riverside, CA 92518
Attn: Leasa Cleand, Director of
Water Resources

Yucaipa Valley Water District
12770 Second Street
Yucaipa, CA 92399-0730
Attn: Joe Zoba, GM

ORGANIZATIONS

California Polytechnic University
Reference Library
3801 W. Temple Ave.
Pomona, CA 91768

Cahuilla Band of Indians
Chairperson
52701 Hwy 371
Anza, CA 92539

Center for Biological Diversity
351 California St., Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94104
Attn: Lisa T. Belenky,
Sr. Attorney

Endangered Habitats League
(EHL)
8424 Santa Monica Blvd. #A592
Los Angeles, Ca 90069
Dan Silver

Gabrieleno/Tongva Tribal Council
P.O. Box 693
San Gabriel, CA 91778
Attn: Anthony Morales,
Chairperson

Inland Valley Development
Agency/San Bernardino
International Airport
1601 E. Third Street, San
Bernardino, CA 92408
Attn: Michael Burrows, Director

San Bernardino County Museum
Archeological Information Ctr.
2024 Orange Tree Lane
Redlands, CA 92374
Attn: Robin Laska

San Manuel Mission Band of
Indians
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA 92346
Attn: Henry Duro, Chairperson

Serrano Band of Indians
6588 Valeria Drive
Highland, CA 92346
Attn: Goldie Walker

Soboba Band of Mission Indians
23904 Soboba Rd,
San Jacinto, CA 92583
Attn: Joseph Ontiveros

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Subdireccion:
Direccion: 12118

Recibido en:
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 Service: Priority Mail®
 Destination: Chicago, IL 60606
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 Ship from: 1000 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610

[Signature]

Shipping Information
 Tracking #: 9505 1234 5678 9010
 Service: Priority Mail®
 Weight: 10.00 lbs
 Dimensions: 12.00 x 12.00 x 12.00 in

Recipient
 Name: John Doe
 Address: 1000 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610
 Phone: (773) 555-1234
 Email: john.doe@company.com

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 Ship from: 1000 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610

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Shipping Information
 Tracking #: 9505 1234 5678 9010
 Service: Priority Mail®
 Weight: 10.00 lbs
 Dimensions: 12.00 x 12.00 x 12.00 in

Recipient
 Name: John Doe
 Address: 1000 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610
 Phone: (773) 555-1234
 Email: john.doe@company.com

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 Weight: 10.00 lbs
 Dimensions: 12.00 x 12.00 x 12.00 in

Recipient
 Name: John Doe
 Address: 1000 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60610
 Phone: (773) 555-1234
 Email: john.doe@company.com

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Shipment ID: 714
 User: Customer

Business Information: 714-258-7143

Item	Quantity	Weight	Dimensions (L x W x H)
1	1	1.5	10.0 x 10.0 x 10.0

Handwritten signature

Shipment Number	Package Number	Weight	Dimensions (L x W x H)
714-258-7143	1	1.5	10.0 x 10.0 x 10.0

Sender: 714-258-7143

Receiver: 714-258-7143

Address: 714-258-7143

City: 714-258-7143

State: 714-258-7143

Country: 714-258-7143



Shipment ID: 714

User: Customer

Business Information: 714-258-7143

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Handwritten signature

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Sender: 714-258-7143

Receiver: 714-258-7143

Address: 714-258-7143

City: 714-258-7143

State: 714-258-7143



Shipment ID: 714

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Receiver: 714-258-7143

Address: 714-258-7143

City: 714-258-7143

State: 714-258-7143



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Zip	33133	Signature	33133
Country	US	Signature	US

Signature

Shipping Address:
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 State: FL
 City: Dade
 Zip: 33133
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Receiver:
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 Address: [Redacted]
 City: [Redacted]
 State: [Redacted]
 Zip: [Redacted]
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Total Weight: 14.5



November 24, 4
 FedEx Client
 FedEx Tracking & Delivery Services for FedEx Tracking # 77 758 78 952

Delivery Point	Business	Service	Destination
State	FL	Signature	FLORIDA
City	DADE	Signature	DADE
Zip	33133	Signature	33133
Country	US	Signature	US

Signature

Shipping Address:
 77 758 78 952
 State: FL
 City: Dade
 Zip: 33133
 Country: US

Receiver:
 Name: [Redacted]
 Address: [Redacted]
 City: [Redacted]
 State: [Redacted]
 Zip: [Redacted]
 Country: US

Total Weight: 14.5



November 24, 4
 FedEx Client
 FedEx Tracking & Delivery Services for FedEx Tracking # 77 758 78 952

Delivery Point	Business	Service	Destination
State	FL	Signature	FLORIDA
City	DADE	Signature	DADE
Zip	33133	Signature	33133
Country	US	Signature	US

Signature

Shipping Address:
 77 758 78 952
 State: FL
 City: Dade
 Zip: 33133
 Country: US

Receiver:
 Name: [Redacted]
 Address: [Redacted]
 City: [Redacted]
 State: [Redacted]
 Zip: [Redacted]
 Country: US

Total Weight: 14.5



November 24, 4
 FedEx Client
 FedEx Tracking & Delivery Services for FedEx Tracking # 77 758 78 952

Delivery Point	Business	Service	Destination
State	FL	Signature	FLORIDA
City	DADE	Signature	DADE
Zip	33133	Signature	33133
Country	US	Signature	US

Signature

Shipping Address:
 77 758 78 952
 State: FL
 City: Dade
 Zip: 33133
 Country: US

Receiver:
 Name: [Redacted]
 Address: [Redacted]
 City: [Redacted]
 State: [Redacted]
 Zip: [Redacted]
 Country: US

Total Weight: 14.5

Newspaper Notice



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Publication Name:

**Inland Valley Daily Bulletin-
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www.dailybulletin.com

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Notice Keywords:

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Notice URL:

Notice Content

NOTICE OF PREPARATION To: Agencies and Interested Parties From: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department Date: November 6, 2014 Subject: Announcement of: 1) Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project 2) Public Scoping Meeting to be held on November 19, 2014; and 3) NOP Scoping Comments due by December 8, 2014. The Project is located within the City of San Bernardino approximately 60 miles east of the City of Los Angeles in the upper Santa Ana River (SAR) Valley Watershed. The proposed facilities would be constructed within the SBMWD service area and would lie above the San Bernardino Basin Area or, more specifically, the Bunker Hill Basin. The City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) is proposing the Clean Water Factory (CWF) Project to reduce its dependence on imported water and establish a reliable, sustainable source of clean water. The proposed CWF will treat effluent from the San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant to a quality approved for recharge. Up to 22 MGD of treated effluent will be diverted from the Santa Ana River and conveyed to the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds. Recycled water spread at these facilities will artificially recharge the Bunker Hill Groundwater Basin. The CWF will also treat a side stream of SBWRP effluent to a quality approved for direct reuse and convey the tertiary treated recycled water to customers that can benefit from a non-potable water supply, and will also involve future connection of the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction facility to the Chino Groundwater Basin and the Inland Empire Utility Agency's non-potable system. 1.0 Scoping Meeting: A public scoping meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014, at two different times for the convenience of interested parties - one from 2 to 4 PM and one from 6 to 8 PM (it is only necessary to attend one of the scoping meetings, as they will have the same information and purpose). San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District 380 East Vanderbilt Way San Bernardino, CA 92408 Phone: (909) 387-9200 www.sbmwd.com The scoping meeting will include a brief presentation regarding the proposed Project, followed by an open house format workshop with information stations addressing various aspects of the Project, Environmental Issues, and the Process. Attendees will be provided an informational packet, will have the opportunity to ask questions at each workshop station, and will be provided with a comment card to submit to SBMWD prior to the close of the public review period. If special assistance is required to participate in the public scoping meetings, please contact us as far in advance as possible to enable SBMWD to secure the needed services (contact information is provided below). If a request cannot be honored, the requestor will be notified. A telephone device for the hearing impaired (TDD) is available at 916-989-7285. Comments: This NOP is being circulated for a 30-day public comment period, beginning on November 6, 2014, and ending on December 8, 2014. Written or oral comments on the proposed content and scope of the EIS/EIR can be provided at the public scoping meeting, or written comments may be provided directly to Reclamation or SBMWD. Comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on December 8, 2014. Comments provided by e-mail should include the name and address of the sender. Please send all written and/or e-mail comments to one of the following: John A. Claus Director of Water Reclamation City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department 399 Chandler Place San Bernardino, CA 92408 909-384-5108 John.Claus@sbmwd.org Before including your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can request in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, Reclamation and SBMWD cannot guarantee that this will be possible. Pub: November 13, 2014 #595678

Notice Publish Date:

Thursday, 13 November 2014

Scoping Meeting Power Point Presentation



Clean Water Factory Public Scoping Meeting

November 19, 2014

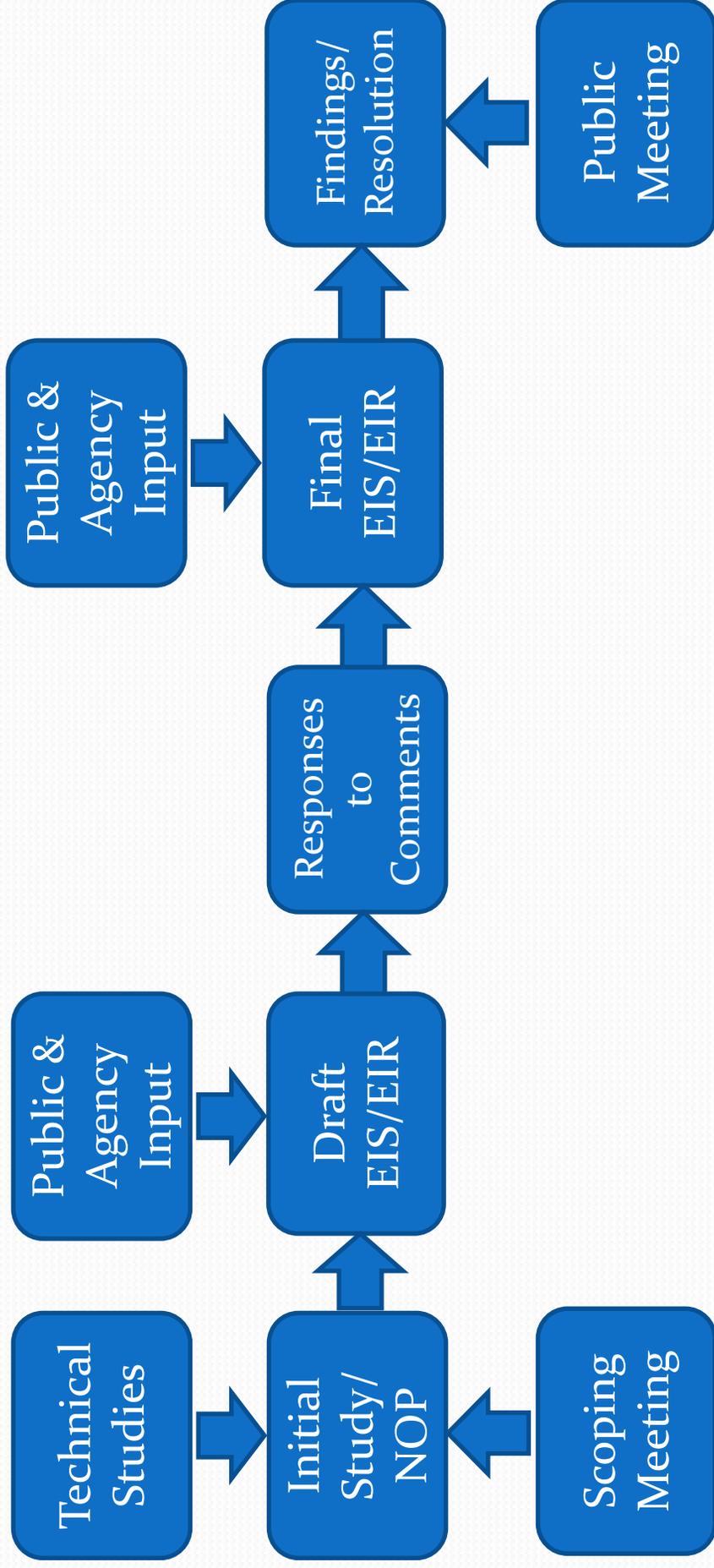


Purpose of Scoping Meeting

- **Inform the public** of the City of San Bernardino's intent to prepare an EIS/EIR
- **Present an overview** of the environmental process and the issues to be addressed in the EIS/EIR
- **Solicit comments** regarding potential environmental issues that should be considered and addressed in the EIS/EIR

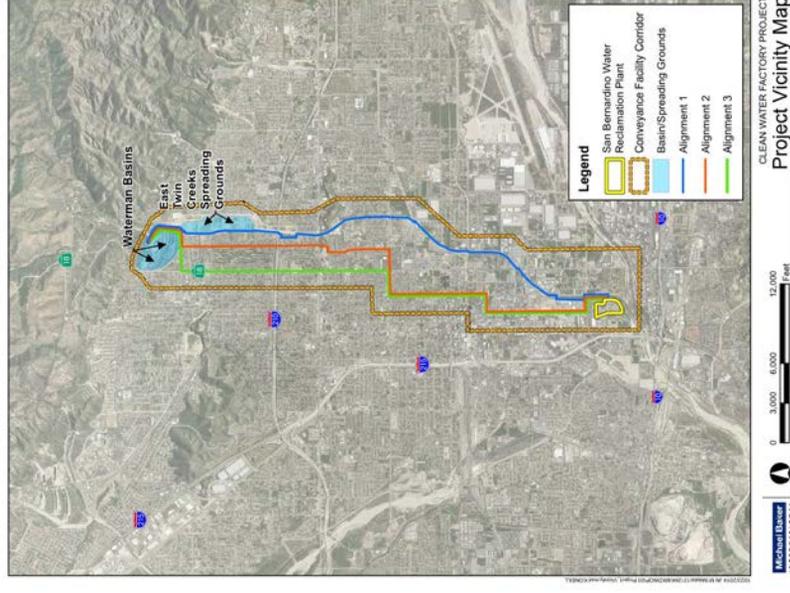


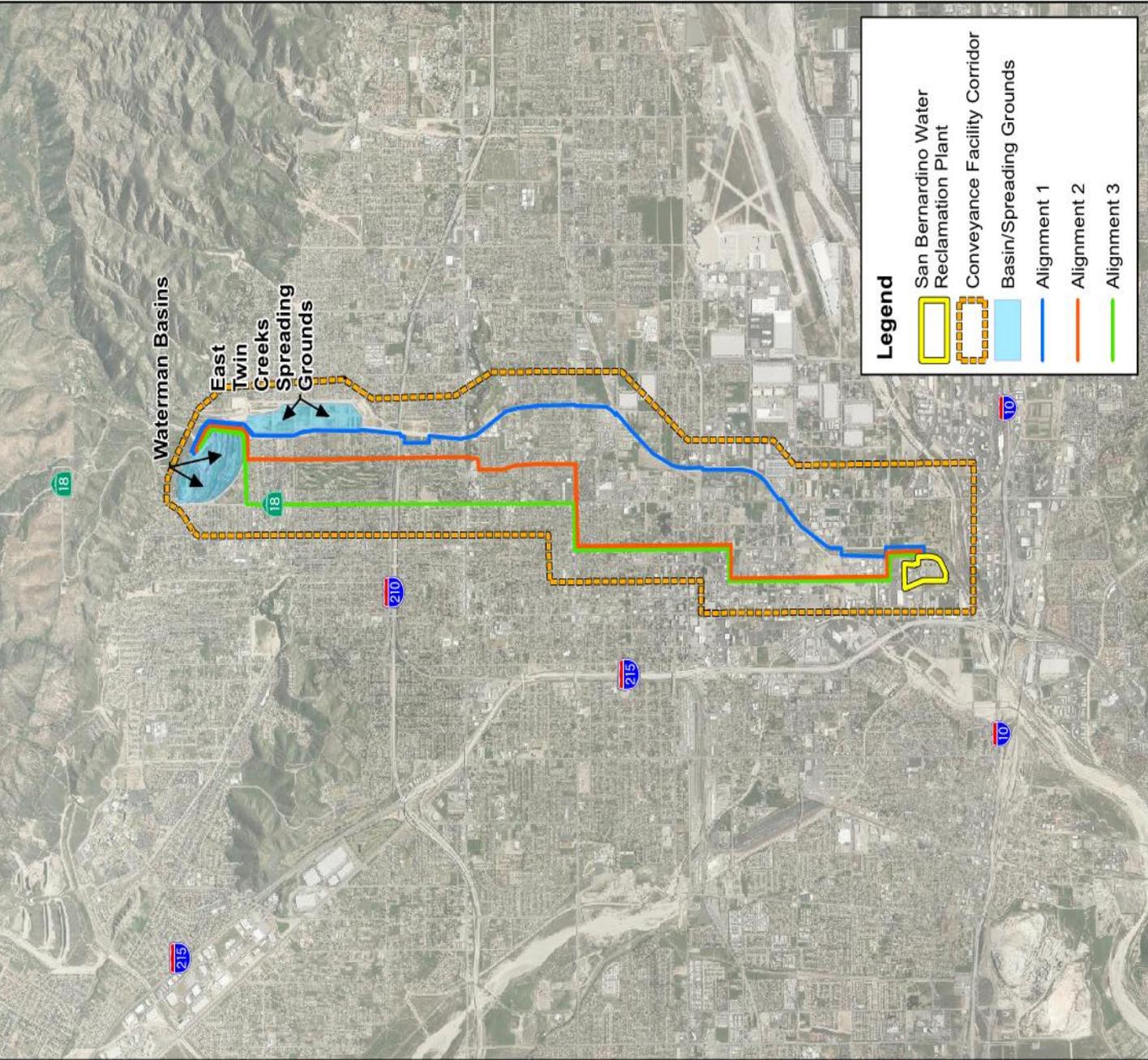
Environmental Review Process



Project Location

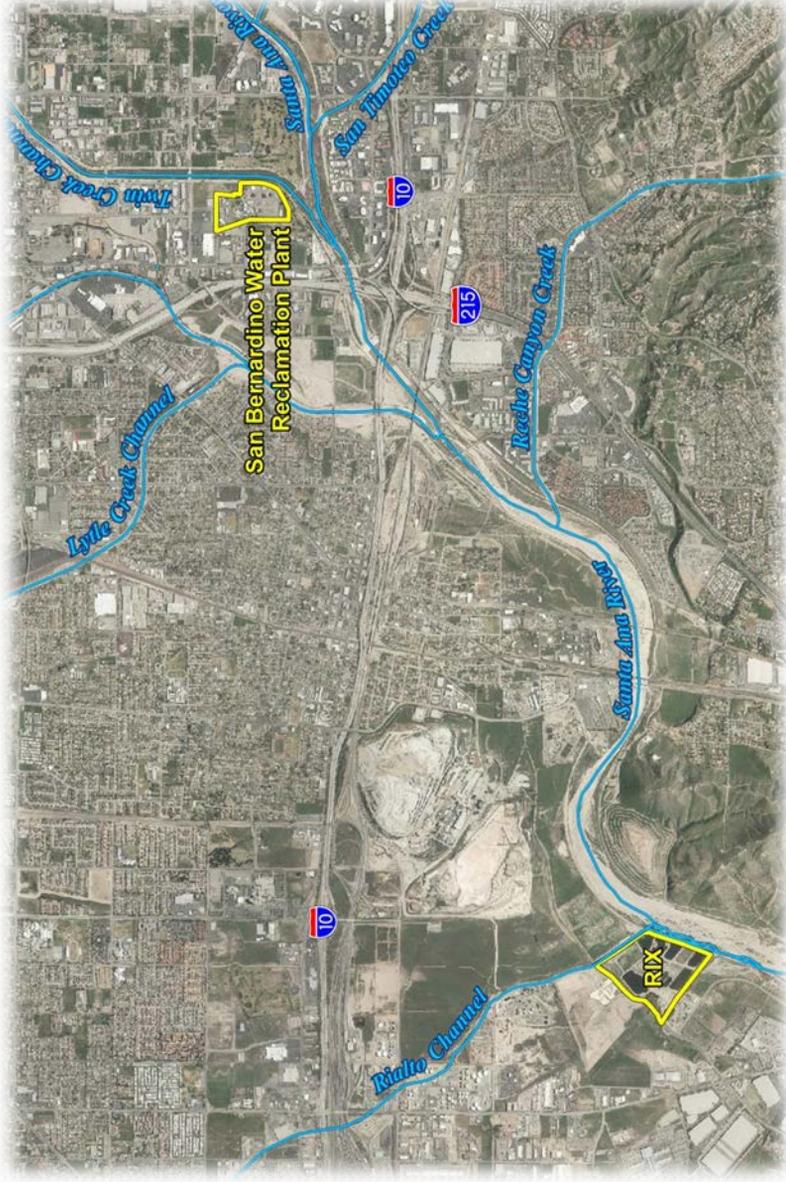
- Centrally located in the City of San Bernardino
- Study Area encompasses approximately 9 square miles and extends about 6 miles north-to-south
- SBWRP located in the south
- Waterman Basins & East Twin Creeks Spreading Basins located in the north

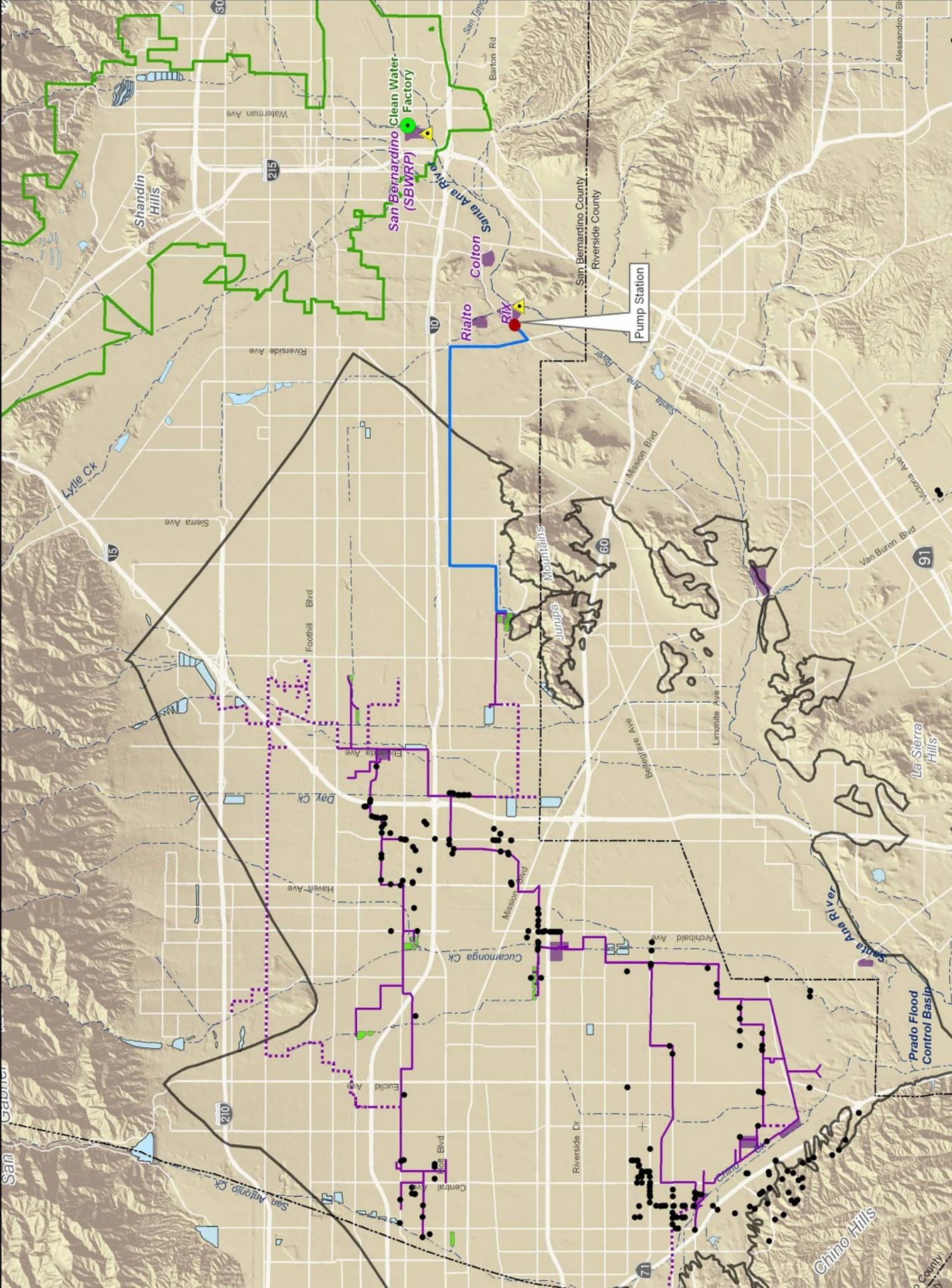




Project Concept

- Reduce up to 22 mgd of treated discharges into the Santa Ana River (SAR) via the RIX facility
- Treatment improvements to the SBWRP
- Use the diverted 22 mgd for groundwater recharge & direct use of recycled water





Potential RIX Discharge Phase Reduction Scenarios

Discharge Scenarios	Year	RIX Discharge (MGD)	RIX Discharge (CFS)
Baseline ¹	2012	34.3	53.0
Phase 1	2015	29.0	44.9
Phase 2	2020	24.8	38.4
Phase 3	2025	20.8	32.2
Phase 4	2030	17.0	26.3
Phase 5	2035	13.4	20.8
Zero ²	2012	6.1 ²	9.5 ²

Source: City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

Notes: ¹For the model, baseline discharge was based on average RIX discharge measured on October 18-19, 2012. Average discharge was approximately 53 cfs. MGD=million gallons per day; CFS=cubic feet per second. Annual RIX discharge has varied from 36 MGD in 2010 to 31.3 MGD in 2013.

²Provided for illustrative purposes. Zero discharge is based on zero discharge from RIX, but it is assumed the City of Rialto wastewater treatment plant will continue to discharge approximately 10 cfs to the Santa Ana River, resulting in an existing baseline of approximately 63 cfs for Santa Ana River discharge.

Santa Ana Sucker



- Endangered Species
 - Critical Habitat in SAR
 - Low Flow Study
 - Regulatory Agency Consultation
 - Adaptive Management Plan
 - Biological Assessment
 - Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation
 - Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan
- Process - <http://www.upperarhpc.com/>

Environmental Resources to be Analyzed in the EIS/EIR

Short-term Construction and Long-term Operational Impacts will be analyzed for each resource

- **Aesthetics**
 - Potential changes in scenic views or visual character
- **Agricultural and Forestry Resources**
 - Potential conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses; conflict with land under Williamson Act Land Conservation Contracts or agricultural zoning, as well as the potential loss or conversion of forestland or timberland
- **Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
 - Potential increases in pollutant emissions and objectionable odors associated with construction activities and long-term increases in pollutant emissions during project operation (including stationary and mobile-source emissions)
 - Generation of greenhouse gas emissions



Environmental Resources to be Analyzed in the EIS/EIR

Short-term Construction and Long-term Operational Impacts will be analyzed for each resource

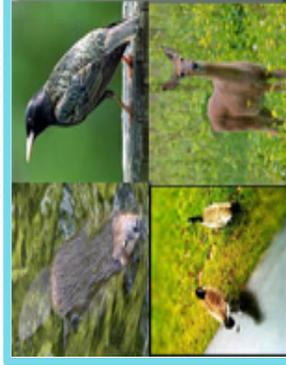
- **Biological Resources**
 - Potential impacts to sensitive species and habitats
 - Santa Ana Sucker
 - Consultation and coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- **Cultural Resources**
 - Potential impacts to historic, archaeological, and paleontological resources
- **Geology and Soils**
 - Potential geological risks including landslides, liquefaction, and earthquakes
- **Hazards and Hazardous Materials**
 - Existing soil and groundwater conditions
 - Potential for risk during transport, storage, operations



Environmental Resources to be Analyzed in the EIS/EIR (cont'd)

Short-term Construction and Long-term Operational Impacts will be analyzed for each resource

- **Hydrology and Water Quality**
 - Water quality
 - Groundwater supplies
 - Drainage patterns
 - 100-year flood hazard
- **Indian Trust Assets (federal requirement)**
 - San Manuel Band of Serrano Mission Indians
 - Federally recognized Indian tribe located near the city of Highland, California
- **Land Use and Planning**
 - Consistency with adopted water supply plans
 - Consistency with the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) and the Santa Ana Sucker Conservation Program for the SAR
 - Land use/planning implications of proposed improvements at the SBWRP, recharge basins and related facilities



NATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY ACT



California Environmental
Quality Act (CEQA)

Environmental Resources to be Analyzed in the EIS/EIR (cont'd)

Short-term Construction and Long-term Operational Impacts will be analyzed for each resource

- **Noise**
 - Potential construction and operational noise
- **Public Services (including parks)**
 - Potential impacts to law enforcement and fire protection services during construction
 - Potential impacts to schools, libraries, recreational facilities
 - Proposed treatment improvements to the existing SBWRP and a conveyance system to the Waterman Basins, East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds, and customers for direct use applications; direct use sites, including parks which presently operate independent of recycled water supplies, would need to implement site improvements to comply with reuse regulations.



Environmental Resources to be Analyzed in the EIS/EIR (cont'd)

Short-term Construction and Long-term Operational Impacts will be analyzed for each resource

- **Socioeconomics**
 - Subsections will include Environmental Justice and Population, Employment and Housing
 - Temporary and permanent increase in local/regional employment, increased need for housing or potential displacement of housing or persons, and potential inducement of substantial population growth associated with project implementation will be evaluated.
- **Transportation and Traffic**
 - Project is not a trip-generating use, however, construction-related impacts relative to level-of-service standards and inadequate emergency access may occur and will be evaluated.
- **Utilities and Service Systems**
 - Water, wastewater, and drainage facilities
 - Solid waste



Consideration of Alternatives

Alternatives

No Project Alternative (Conservation Only). Evaluates impacts and water supply implications should SBMWD not proceed with this Project, including consideration of other available water supply options, and increased reliance upon water conservation;

Reduced Scale Alternative (reduced diversion from SAR). Evaluates a reduced scale project, such as the equivalent of Phases 1-3 of the proposed Project;

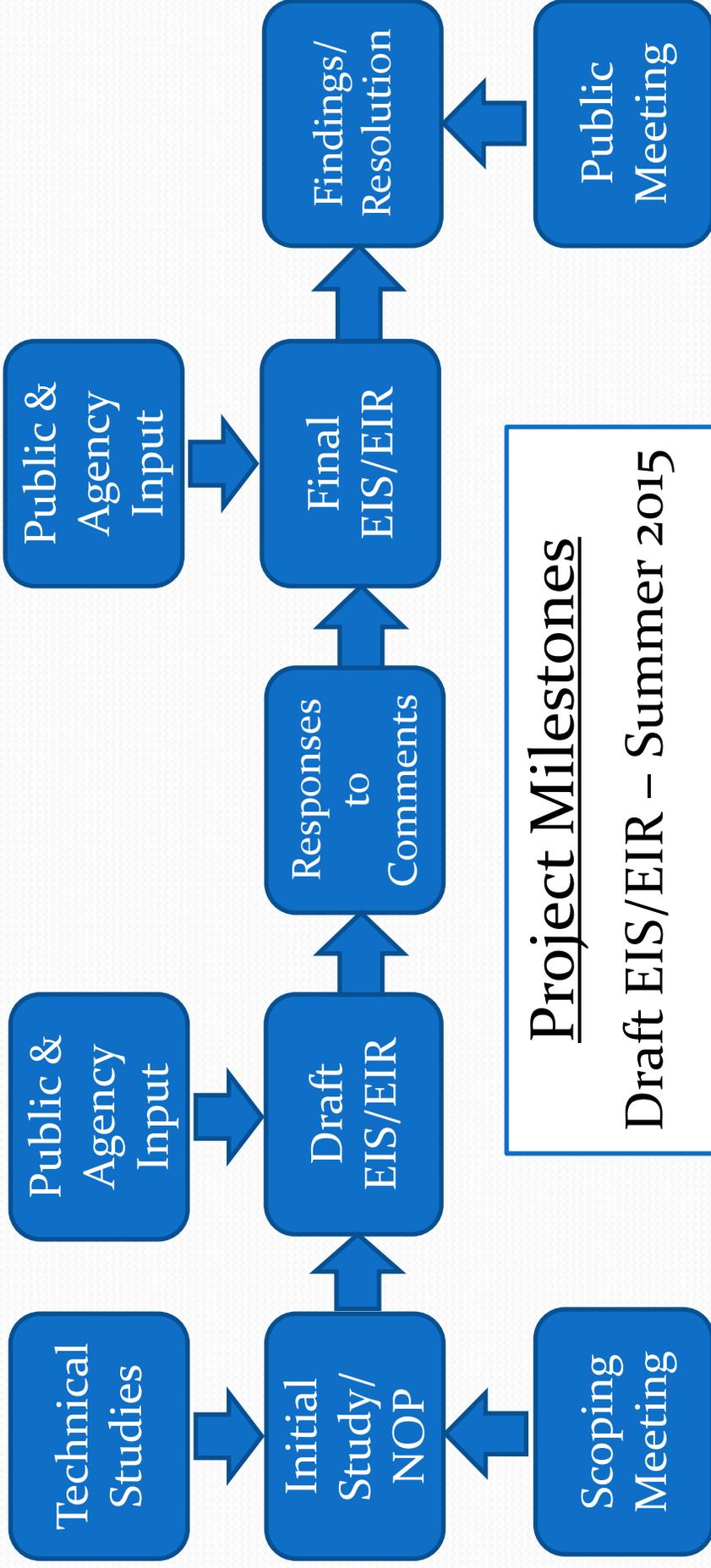
Alternative Site(s) for recharge and conveyance facilities. Evaluates potential alternative sites for water reclamation, conveyance alignments, and potential recharge basins;

In Lieu Alternatives. Evaluates meeting SBWMD's future water supply needs by reducing the proposed RIX diversion (thereby allowing increased discharge into the SAR), in exchange for a downstream agency (or agencies) transferring a corresponding amount of SWP or other imported water to SBMWD.

Environmentally Superior Alternative.



Environmental Review Process



Project Milestones

Draft EIS/EIR – Summer 2015

Final EIS/EIR – Fall 2015

Public Meeting – Winter 2015

Public Comments

due by December 6

Send Written Comments To:

John A. Claus

Director of Water Reclamation

City of San Bernardino Municipal Water District

399 Chandler Place

San Bernardino, CA 92408

Phone: (909) 384-5108

John.Claus@sbmwd.org

Scoping Meeting Sign-In Sheets





Sign-In Sheet
Clean Water Factory Project
EIR/EIS Scoping Meeting
November 19th, 2014 - 2 PM Session

for NOTICES

Name	Address	Phone #	E-mail	Organization
Janet Gaeta		(909) 657-9907	yanetgaeta@sbmwd.com	SBMWD
Ruth Villalobos	3602 Inland Empire Blvd, C-310, Ontario, CA 91764	909-685-5942	r.villalobos@rvacdrp.com	RVA
Emily Elliott	3210 E. Guasti Rd. Ontario, CA 91761	760-638-2060	emilylelliott@mbkllrintl.com	RBF Consulting
Greg Gage	P.O. Box 710 San Bernardino, CA 92402	(909) 522-3401	greg.gage@sbmwd.com	SBMWD
MAT LITTEFIELD	P.O. BOX 710 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92402	909-584-5502	mat.litfield@sbmwd.com	SBMWD
JOHN CLAUD	SAN BERNARDINO CA 92402	909-584-5502	john.claus@sbmwd.com	SBMWD
Kevin Thomas		714 269 7427	kthomas@rbf.com	RBF
Tom McGill		909-974-4907	tmcgill@rbf.com	RBF
Miguel Guerrero	P.O. Box 27708 Jefferson, Ste 202 Tombula, CA 92590	909-522-3409	miguel.guerrero@sbmwd.com	SBMWD
Doug MPherson		951-695-5310	dougpherson@usbri.com	USBRI
Ashok Dhingra		909-224-3100	ash@akdconsulting.com	AKD consulting



Sign-In Sheet
 Clean Water Factory Project
 EIR/EIS Scoping Meeting
 November 19, 2014 – 6 PM Session

Name	Address	Phone #	E-mail	Organization
Jennifer Ares	12770 2nd St. Yucaipa	909.790.3301	jares@yvwd.net	YVWD
Jack Nelson	12770 2nd St Yucaipa	909 797 5119 x3	jnelson@yvwd.net	Yucaipa Valley WD

Scoping Meeting Oral Comments Summary



City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
Clean Water Factory Project
Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report
Scoping Meeting – Oral Comments
Wednesday, November 19, 2014

General notes: Two guests were present for the 2pm session, John Mura of East Valley Water District and his engineer Ashok Dhingra. John had various questions about the Project, suggested that the CWF project coordinate with his project, and stated he would submit formal written comments.

Two guests were in attendance for the 6pm session, Jennifer Ares and Jack Nelson of Yucaipa Valley Water District. Discussion with session attendees centered consisted primarily of general questions about the Project rather than requested input on the EIS/EIR.

Oral Comments from 6pm Session:

Questions were made by representatives of the Yucaipa Valley Water District and the United States Bureau of Reclamation. John Claus, Project Engineer, responded to the oral comments.

Question: Is this project similar to Yucaipa Valley Water District's San Timoteo Project?
Answer: Yes

Question: How much reduction in the (Santa Ana) River is expected with implementation of the project?
Answer: 50%-60% reduction, over phases.

Question: Are there going to be 1 or 2 pipelines to the basin?
Answer: There will be one trench, but two pipelines.

Question: Are there property issues with the alignment?
Answer: No. City is working with County Flood Control Right of Way on City streets. There will be traffic disruption during construction.

Question: Are you able to irrigate properties with the given alignments?
Answer: Yes. Eight inch laterals will be installed to facilitate irrigation.

Question: 3,100 acre/feet per year, is that still correct?
Answer: Yes.

Question: Do you already have reverse osmosis?
Answer: No. It would be installed as part of the project and in phases.

Notice of Preparation Comment Letters



-----Original message-----

From: Elizabeth Razo <Elizabeth.Razo@sbmwd.org>
To: John Claus <John.Claus@sbmwd.org>
Sent: Thu, Nov 6, 2014 22:05:32 GMT+00:00
Subject: Phone call from Lisa Belenky of Center for Biological Diversity

11/06/14 @ 1:45pm: Ms. Belenky was calling regarding the Fed-x package she received on the Notice of Preparation for Clean Water Factory.

Ms. Belenky wanted an electronic version. I advised that the electronic version would probably be available next week at the earliest. Ms. Belenky advised if it became available earlier to call her at (415) 632-5307, or email it to her at Lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org .

Elizabeth Razo
Senior Administrative Coordinator
SBMWD-ERC/WRP
(909) 384-5317 or (909) 384-5246

Please note new email:
Elizabeth.razo@sbmwd.org

From: John Claus [<mailto:John.Claus@sbmwd.org>]
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2014 10:58 AM
To: lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org
Cc: Elizabeth Razo
Subject: Re: Phone call from Lisa Belenky of Center for Biological Diversity

Hello Ms. Belenky,

The NOP is now available on our website: www.ci.san-bernardino.ca.us/water/

Regards,
John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation

Connected by DROID on Verizon Wireless

From: Lisa Belenky [<mailto:lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org>]
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2014 11:29 AM
To: John Claus
Cc: Elizabeth Razo
Subject: RE: Phone call from Lisa Belenky of Center for Biological Diversity

Thank you!

Lisa T. Belenky, Senior Attorney
Center for Biological Diversity
351 California St., Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94104
(415) 632-5307
Fax: (415) 436-9683
lbelenky@biologicaldiversity.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Dan Silver [<mailto:dsilverla@me.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 5:03 PM
To: John Claus
Cc: Doug Headrick
Subject: Clean Water Factory Project

John A Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Dept.
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino CA 92408

RE: Notice of Preparation of an EIR for Clean Water Factory Project

Dear Mr Claus:

Endangered Habitats League (EHL) is in receipt of this NOP. Please retain EHL on all mailing and distribution lists for the project, such as CEQA documents and public hearings.

EHL supports the preparation of the Upper Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan, and monitors that process. We note and commend the Department's participation. Should not the HCP determine the best conservation approach for the Santa Ana sucker? We therefore urge that the CEQA process not get ahead of the HCP.

Thank you for considering our views.

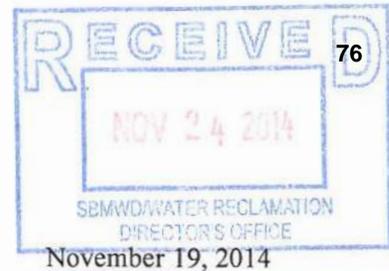
Yours truly,
Dan Silver

Dan Silver, Executive Director
Endangered Habitats League
8424 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite A 592
Los Angeles, CA 90069-4267

213-804-2750
dsilverla@me.com
www.ehleague.org



South Coast
Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178
(909) 396-2000 • www.aqmd.gov



John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Notice of Preparation of a CEQA Document for the Clean Water Factory Project

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) staff appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The SCAQMD staff's comments are recommendations regarding the analysis of potential air quality impacts from the proposed project that should be included in the draft CEQA document. Please send the SCAQMD a copy of the CEQA document upon its completion. Note that copies of the Draft EIR that are submitted to the State Clearinghouse are not forwarded to the SCAQMD. Please forward a copy of the Draft EIR directly to SCAQMD at the address in our letterhead. **In addition, please send with the draft EIR all appendices or technical documents related to the air quality and greenhouse gas analyses and electronic versions of all air quality modeling and health risk assessment files. These include original emission calculation spreadsheets and modeling files (not Adobe PDF files). Without all files and supporting air quality documentation, the SCAQMD will be unable to complete its review of the air quality analysis in a timely manner. Any delays in providing all supporting air quality documentation will require additional time for review beyond the end of the comment period.**

Air Quality Analysis

The SCAQMD adopted its California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Air Quality Handbook in 1993 to assist other public agencies with the preparation of air quality analyses. The SCAQMD recommends that the Lead Agency use this Handbook as guidance when preparing its air quality analysis. Copies of the Handbook are available from the SCAQMD's Subscription Services Department by calling (909) 396-3720. More recent guidance developed since this Handbook was published is also available on SCAQMD's website here: [http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/ceqa-air-quality-handbook-\(1993\)](http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/ceqa-air-quality-handbook-(1993)). SCAQMD staff also recommends that the lead agency use the CalEEMod land use emissions software. This software has recently been updated to incorporate up-to-date state and locally approved emission factors and methodologies for estimating pollutant emissions from typical land use development. CalEEMod is the only software model maintained by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) and replaces the now outdated URBEMIS. This model is available free of charge at: www.caleemod.com.

The Lead Agency should identify any potential adverse air quality impacts that could occur from all phases of the project and all air pollutant sources related to the project. Air quality impacts from both construction (including demolition, if any) and operations should be calculated. Construction-related air quality impacts typically include, but are not limited to, emissions from the use of heavy-duty equipment from grading, earth-loading/unloading, paving, architectural coatings, off-road mobile sources (e.g., heavy-duty construction equipment) and on-road mobile sources (e.g., construction worker vehicle trips, material transport trips). Operation-related air quality impacts may include, but are not limited to, emissions from stationary sources (e.g., boilers), area sources (e.g., solvents and coatings), and vehicular trips (e.g., on- and off-road tailpipe emissions and entrained dust). Air quality impacts from indirect sources, that is, sources that generate or attract vehicular trips should be included in the analysis.

The SCAQMD has also developed both regional and localized significance thresholds. The SCAQMD staff requests that the lead agency quantify criteria pollutant emissions and compare the results to the recommended regional significance thresholds found here: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/ceqa/handbook/scaqmd-air-quality-significance-thresholds.pdf?sfvrsn=2>. In addition to analyzing regional air quality impacts, the SCAQMD staff recommends calculating localized air quality impacts and comparing the results to localized significance thresholds (LSTs). LST's can be used in addition to the recommended regional significance thresholds as a second indication of air quality impacts

when preparing a CEQA document. Therefore, when preparing the air quality analysis for the proposed project, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a localized analysis by either using the LSTs developed by the SCAQMD or performing dispersion modeling as necessary. Guidance for performing a localized air quality analysis can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/localized-significance-thresholds>.

In the event that the proposed project generates or attracts vehicular trips, especially heavy-duty diesel-fueled vehicles, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a mobile source health risk assessment. Guidance for performing a mobile source health risk assessment ("*Health Risk Assessment Guidance for Analyzing Cancer Risk from Mobile Source Diesel Idling Emissions for CEQA Air Quality Analysis*") can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mobile-source-toxics-analysis>. An analysis of all toxic air contaminant impacts due to the use of equipment potentially generating such air pollutants should also be included.

In addition, guidance on siting incompatible land uses (such as placing homes near freeways) can be found in the California Air Resources Board's *Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Perspective*, which can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf>. CARB's Land Use Handbook is a general reference guide for evaluating and reducing air pollution impacts associated with new projects that go through the land use decision-making process.

Mitigation Measures

In the event that the project generates significant adverse air quality impacts, CEQA requires that all feasible mitigation measures that go beyond what is required by law be utilized during project construction and operation to minimize or eliminate these impacts. Pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15126.4 (a)(1)(D), any impacts resulting from mitigation measures must also be discussed. Several resources are available to assist the Lead Agency with identifying possible mitigation measures for the project, including:

- Chapter 11 of the SCAQMD *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*
- SCAQMD's CEQA web pages at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/regulations/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/mitigation-measures-and-control-efficiencies>.
- CAPCOA's *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Measures* available here: <http://www.capcoa.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/CAPCOA-Quantification-Report-9-14-Final.pdf>.
- SCAQMD's Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust, and the Implementation Handbook for controlling construction-related emissions
- Other measures to reduce air quality impacts from land use projects can be found in the SCAQMD's Guidance Document for Addressing Air Quality Issues in General Plans and Local Planning. This document can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/planning/air-quality-guidance/complete-guidance-document.pdf?sfvrsn=4>.

Data Sources

SCAQMD rules and relevant air quality reports and data are available by calling the SCAQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2039. Much of the information available through the Public Information Center is also available via the SCAQMD's webpage (<http://www.aqmd.gov>).

The SCAQMD staff is available to work with the Lead Agency to ensure that project emissions are accurately evaluated and mitigated where feasible. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me at jbaker@aqmd.gov or call me at (909) 396-3176.

Sincerely,

Jillian Baker

Jillian Baker, Ph.D.
Program Supervisor
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

1550 Harbor Blvd., ROOM 100
West SACRAMENTO, CA 95691
(916) 373-3710
Fax (916) 373-5471



November 24, 2014

John A. Claus
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Dept.
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408

RE: SCH# 2014111012 Clean Water Factory, San Bernardino County.

Dear Mr. Claus,

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) has reviewed the Notice of Preparation (NOP) referenced above. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) states that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, which includes archeological resources, is a significant effect requiring the preparation of an EIR (CEQA Guidelines 15064(b)). To comply with this provision the lead agency is required to assess whether the project will have an adverse impact on historical resources within the area of project effect (APE), and if so to mitigate that effect. To adequately assess and mitigate project-related impacts to archaeological resources, the NAHC recommends the following actions:

- ✓ Contact the appropriate regional archaeological Information Center for a record search. The record search will determine:
 - If a part or all of the area of project effect (APE) has been previously surveyed for cultural resources.
 - If any known cultural resources have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE.
 - If the probability is low, moderate, or high that cultural resources are located in the APE.
 - If a survey is required to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.
- ✓ If an archaeological inventory survey is required, the final stage is the preparation of a professional report detailing the findings and recommendations of the records search and field survey.
 - The final report containing site forms, site significance, and mitigation measures should be submitted immediately to the planning department. All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure.
 - The final written report should be submitted within 3 months after work has been completed to the appropriate regional archaeological Information Center.
- ✓ Contact the Native American Heritage Commission for:
 - A Sacred Lands File Check. **USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle name, township, range, and section required**
 - A list of appropriate Native American contacts for consultation concerning the project site and to assist in the mitigation measures. **Native American Contacts List attached**
- ✓ Lack of surface evidence of archeological resources does not preclude their subsurface existence.
 - Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the identification and evaluation of accidentally discovered archeological resources, per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines §15064.5(f). In areas of identified archaeological sensitivity, a certified archaeologist and a culturally affiliated Native American, with knowledge in cultural resources, should monitor all ground-disturbing activities.
 - Lead agencies should include in their mitigation plan provisions for the disposition of recovered cultural items that are not burial associated, which are addressed in Public Resources Code (PRC) §5097.98, in consultation with culturally affiliated Native Americans.
 - Lead agencies should include provisions for discovery of Native American human remains in their mitigation plan. Health and Safety Code §7050.5, PRC §5097.98, and CEQA Guidelines §15064.5(e), address the process to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains and associated grave goods in a location other than a dedicated cemetery.

Sincerely,

Katy Sanchez
Associate Government Program Analyst

CC: State Clearinghouse

CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

TONI CALLICOTT
President

Commissioners
LOUIS A. FERNANDEZ
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JOHN A. CLAUS
Director of Water Reclamation
JENNIFER SHEPARDSON
Director of Environmental &
Regulatory Compliance
TERRI WILLOUGHBY
Director of Finance

"Trusted, Quality Service since 1905"

December 1, 2014

Douglas Headrick
General Manager
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
380 East Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Re: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the
Clean Water Factory Project

Dear Doug,

This memorializes our correspondence the week of November 17, and confirms that the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (Department) will be preparing a scoping report at the conclusion of the public scoping proceedings for the above-referenced matter. That scoping report will include a reference to the April 10, 1969, agreement between the City of San Bernardino and Valley District, which obligates the City to continue discharging at least 16,000 acre-foot annually to the Santa Ana River, and obligates Valley District to provide to City certain amounts of supplemental imported water supplies each year at no cost to the City. The scoping report will also reference the February 22, 2011, Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Resolution of Protests to the Wastewater Change Petition WW0059, as executed by the City and Valley District, wherein it was acknowledged that said April 10, 1969, agreement will remain in full force and effect until and unless Valley District and all of the other parties execute a written agreement establishing an alternative way for Valley District to meet its obligations under the 1969 Orange County Judgment.

If you have any further questions regarding these matters, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department

cc: Stacey Aldstadt
Andrew M. Hitchings
Ruth Villalobos



Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

80

One Water One Watershed

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December 2, 2014

Philip L. Anthony
Commission
Chair

John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Celeste Cantú
General
Manager

Subject: Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project

Orange
County
Water
District

Dear Mr. Claus:

Western
Municipal
Water District

In response to the subject Notice of Preparation of an EIS/EIR for the Clean Water Factory Project dated November 5, 2014, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) owns and operates the Inland Empire Brine Line (Brine Line). The Brine Line was created for the purpose of managing salt in the Santa Ana River Watershed. The Brine Line includes approximately 72 miles of pipeline consisting of four reaches (Chino, San Bernardino, Riverside and Lake Elsinore) which converge in the vicinity of Prado Dam and run to the ocean. Current flow is 12 MGD and design capacity is 30 MGD. The Brine Line is an effective and economical way to dispose of salty wastewater which is sometimes produced through manufacturing and water treatment processes such as your advanced wastewater treatment process. The Brine Line transports this salty wastewater to a wastewater treatment plant operated by the Orange County Sanitation District. After treatment, the water is discharged to the Pacific Ocean. With the Brine Line your agency can now dispose of salty wastewater locally at a substantial cost savings.

Eastern
Municipal
Water
District

Section 3.0 Probable Environmental Impacts, Water Quality (Page 14 of NOP) identifies that the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) may not own sufficient capacity rights in the Brine Line. SAWPA would like to coordinate with SBMWD to consider options for obtaining additional capacity rights in the Brine Line. Please contact Mr. Lucas Gilbert, SAWPA's Manager of Permitting and Pretreatment at (951) 354-4245 or lgilbert@sawpa.org.

San
Bernardino
Valley
Municipal
Water
District

Sincerely,

Inland
Empire
Utilities
Agency

Richard E. Haller, P.E., ENV SP
Executive Manager of Engineering and Operations

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December 2, 2014

Mr. John A. Claus, Director of Water Reclamation
 City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
 399 Chandler Place
 San Bernardino, California 92408
 Telephone: (909) 384-5108
 E-mail: John.Claus@sbmwd.org

ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

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 Alan Wapner, San Bernardino Associated Governments

RE: SCAG Comments on the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project [SCAG NO. IGR8270]

Dear Mr. Claus,

Thank you for submitting the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project ("proposed project") to the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) for review and comment. SCAG is the authorized regional agency for Inter-Governmental Review (IGR) of programs proposed for federal financial assistance and direct development activities, pursuant to Presidential Executive Order 12372. Additionally, SCAG reviews the Environmental Impact Reports of projects of regional significance for consistency with regional plans pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.

SCAG is also the designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency under state law, and is responsible for preparation of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) including its Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) component pursuant to SB 375. As the clearinghouse for regionally significant projects per Executive Order 12372, SCAG reviews the consistency of local plans, projects, and programs with regional plans.¹ Guidance provided by these reviews is intended to assist local agencies and project sponsors to take actions that contribute to the attainment of the regional goals and policies in the RTP/SCS.

SCAG staff has reviewed the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project. Located within the City of San Bernardino, County of San Bernardino, California, the proposed project is intended to reduce the San Bernardino Municipal Water District's dependence on imported water and to establish a reliable, sustainable source of clean water through implementation of six (6) key elements such as an addition of up to 5 million-gallon per day (mgd) of tertiary filtration/disinfection facilities.

When available, please send environmental documentation to SCAG's office in Los Angeles or by email to sunl@scag.ca.gov providing, at a minimum, the full public comment period for review. If you have any questions regarding the attached comments, please contact Lijin Sun, Senior Regional Planner, at (213) 236-1882 or sunl@scag.ca.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ping Chang,
 Program Manager II, Land Use and Environmental Planning

¹ SB 375 amends CEQA to add Chapter 4.2 Implementation of the Sustainable Communities Strategy, which allows for certain CEQA streamlining for projects consistent with the RTP/SCS. Lead agencies (including local jurisdictions) maintain the discretion and will be solely responsible for determining "consistency" of any future project with the SCS. Any "consistency" finding by SCAG pursuant to the IGR process should not be construed as a finding of consistency under SB 375 for purposes of CEQA streamlining.

**COMMENTS ON THE NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF
AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
REPORT FOR THE CLEAN WATER FACTORY PROJECT [SCAG NO. IGR8270]**

CONSISTENCY WITH RTP/SCS

SCAG reviews environmental documents for regionally significant projects for their consistency with the adopted RTP/SCS.

2012 RTP/SCS Goals

The SCAG Regional Council adopted the 2012 RTP/SCS in April 2012. The 2012 RTP/SCS links the goal of sustaining mobility with the goals of fostering economic development, enhancing the environment, reducing energy consumption, promoting transportation-friendly development patterns, and encouraging fair and equitable access to residents affected by socio-economic, geographic and commercial limitations (see <http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov>). The goals included in the 2012 RTP/SCS may be pertinent to the proposed project. These goals are meant to provide guidance for considering the proposed project within the context of regional goals and policies. Among the relevant goals of the 2012 RTP/SCS are the following:

SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS GOALS	
RTP/SCS G1:	<i>Align the plan investments and policies with improving regional economic development and competitiveness</i>
RTP/SCS G2:	<i>Maximize mobility and accessibility for all people and goods in the region</i>
RTP/SCS G3:	<i>Ensure travel safety and reliability for all people and goods in the region</i>
RTP/SCS G4:	<i>Preserve and ensure a sustainable regional transportation system</i>
RTP/SCS G5:	<i>Maximize the productivity of our transportation system</i>
RTP/SCS G6:	<i>Protect the environment and health for our residents by improving air quality and encouraging active transportation (non-motorized transportation, such as bicycling and walking)</i>
RTP/SCS G7:	<i>Actively encourage and create incentives for energy efficiency, where possible</i>
RTP/SCS G8:	<i>Encourage land use and growth patterns that facilitate transit and non-motorized transportation</i>
RTP/SCS G9:	<i>Maximize the security of the regional transportation system through improved system monitoring, rapid recovery planning, and coordination with other security agencies</i>

For ease of review, we encourage the use of a side-by-side comparison of SCAG goals with discussions of the consistency, non-consistency or non-applicability of the policy and supportive analysis in a table format. Suggested format is as follows:

SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS Goals		
	Goal	Analysis
RTP/SCS G1:	<i>Align the plan investments and policies with improving regional economic development and competitiveness.</i>	<i>Consistent: Statement as to why Not-Consistent: Statement as to why or Not Applicable: Statement as to why DEIR page number reference</i>
RTP/SCS G2:	<i>Maximize mobility and accessibility for all people and goods in the region.</i>	<i>Consistent: Statement as to why Not-Consistent: Statement as to why or Not Applicable: Statement as to why DEIR page number reference</i>
	etc.	etc.

RTP/SCS Strategies

To achieve the goals of the 2012 RTP/SCS, a wide range of strategies are included in SCS Chapter (starting on page 152) of the RTP/SCS focusing on four key areas: 1) Land Use Actions and Strategies; 2) Transportation Network Actions and Strategies; 3) Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Actions and Strategies and; 4) Transportation System Management (TSM) Actions and Strategies. If applicable to the proposed project, please refer to these strategies as guidance for considering the proposed project within the context of regional goals and policies. To access a listing of the strategies, please visit <http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov/Documents/2012/final/f2012RTPSCS.pdf> (Tables 4.3 – 4.7, beginning on page 152).

Regional Growth Forecasts

At the time of this letter, the most recently adopted SCAG forecasts consists of the 2020 and 2035 RTP/SCS population, household and employment forecasts. To view them, please visit <http://scag.ca.gov/Documents/2012AdoptedGrowthForecastPDF.pdf>. The forecasts for the region and applicable jurisdictions are below.

Forecast	Adopted SCAG Region Wide Forecasts		Adopted City of San Bernardino Forecasts	
	Year 2020	Year 2035	Year 2020	Year 2035
Population	19,663,000	22,091,000	231,200	261,400
Households	6,458,000	7,325,000	66,900	76,800
Employment	8,414,000	9,441,000	113,400	145,300

MITIGATION

SCAG staff recommends that you review the SCAG 2012 RTP/SCS Final Program EIR Mitigation Measures for guidance, as appropriate. See Chapter 6 (beginning on page 143) at: <http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov/Documents/peir/2012/final/Final2012PEIR.pdf>

As referenced in Chapter 6, a comprehensive list of example mitigation measures that may be considered as appropriate is included in Appendix G: *Examples of Measures that Could Reduce Impacts from Planning, Development and Transportation Projects*. Appendix G can be accessed at: http://rtpscs.scag.ca.gov/Documents/peir/2012/final/2012fPEIR_AppendixG_ExampleMeasures.pdf

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ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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December 5, 2014

Mr. John A. Claus
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408

RE: *Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project, SCH Number 2014111012*

Dear Mr. Claus:

We appreciate receiving the Notice of Preparation for the EIS/EIR for the Clean Water Factory Project, which will evaluate the potential environmental impacts from construction of facilities to provide recycled water to the Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds with a reduction of up to approximately 22 mgd of treated wastewater discharges into the Santa Ana River via the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction facility.

We request that you continue to provide us with environmental documents related to construction of the Clean Water Factory project. If delivery of notices electronically is preferred please send to the email address listed below. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Greg Woodside, P.G., C.Hg.
Executive Director of Planning and Natural Resources
gwoodside@ocwd.com



Department of Public Works

- Environmental & Construction • Flood Control
- Operations • Solid Waste Management
- Surveyor • Transportation

Gerry Newcombe
Director

December 5, 2014

File: 10(ENV)-4.01

John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
John.Claus@sbmwd.org

RE: CEQA – NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF EIS/EIR FOR THE CLEAN WATER FACTORY PROJECT FOR THE CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT

Dear Mr. Claus:

Thank you for giving the San Bernardino County Department of Public Works the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced project. **We received this request on November 7, 2014** and pursuant to our review, the following comments are provided:

Environmental Management Division (Brandy Wood, Ecological Resource Specialist, 909-387-7971):

1. Waterman Basins (Waterman Spreading Grounds) is known by the San Bernardino County Flood Control District (District) to be occupied by multiple pairs of least Bell's vireo and contains riparian habitat that has been proposed as mitigation for the District's Master Storm Water Systemwide Maintenance Program, which is currently being prepared.
2. Impacts to wetland and riparian vegetation that invades the Waterman Basins and Twin Creek Spreading Grounds due to the Clean Water Factory project activities would need to be mitigated and addressed by the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department's environmental document and would not be the responsibility of the District.
3. Regulatory permits to maintain these facilities due to the activities associated with the "Clean Water Factory" would need to be obtained by the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department.
4. There has been a historical population of Speckled Dace in the Twin Creek Spreading Grounds. This species would also need to be surveyed for and addressed within the document.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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5. We are concerned with the proposed phased reduction in the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction flow and the "long-term operational impacts to the Federally-listed Santa Ana Sucker". The City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department should include its proposed mitigation within the document to address these serious impacts.
6. As part of the "Low Flow Study" the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department would need to address impacts to the riparian vegetation that benefits from the perennial flow and the endangered species this vegetation supports.
7. Once this document has been prepared, the District would like to comment. Please include us on the circulation list.

Water Resources Division (Mary Lou Mermilliod, PWE III, 909-387-8213):

1. The Flood Control District's recommendations are most often made for site specific conditions. Consequently, the recommendations made here are general in nature until such time as more detailed plans become available.
2. Before any encroachment onto District Right of Way, a permit shall be obtained from the Flood Control District's Permits/Operations/Support Division. Other on-site and/or off-site improvements may be required which cannot be determined at this time.

Environmental Management Division (Erma Hurse, Senior Planner, 909-387-1864):

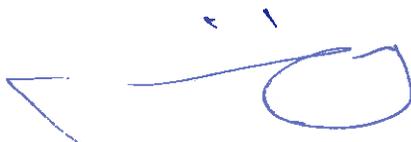
1. The project impacts may require site improvements at various outlet structures. Prior to any activity on District right of way, a permit shall be obtained from the District's Permits/Operations Support Division.
2. The EIS/EIR should address specific strategies or diversion programs that will reduce significantly the solid waste disposal needs generated by the project.

Environmental Management Division (Nancy Sansonetti, Senior Planner, 909-387-1866):

1. The EIR/EIS should include discussion and analysis of the proposed project's impacts on, and coordination with, the Santa Ana River Habitat Conservation Plan which is currently under preparation.

If you have any questions, please contact the individual who provided the specific comment, as listed above.

Sincerely,



NIDHAM ARAM ALRAYES, MSCE, P.E., QSD/P
 Public Works Engineer III
 Environmental Management Division



EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT⁸⁷

LEADERSHIP • PARTNERSHIP • STEWARDSHIP

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December 5, 2014

Mr. John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Subject: Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the Clean Water Factory Project

Dear Mr. Claus:

The East Valley Water District (EVWD) has received the NOP dated November 5, 2014, notifying responsible and trustee agencies, Federal agencies involved in approving or funding a project, and interested parties that an EIS/EIR will be prepared for the Clean Water Factory Project in San Bernardino County, California.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment and look forward to working cooperatively with you as this matter progresses. Following are brief summaries of the items we wish to have addressed:

1. On October 22, 2014 The East Valley Water District (EVWD) Board approved moving ahead with the design and construction of a 6 Million Gallons per Day (MGD), expandable to 10 MGD, recycled water treatment plant at 3rd Avenue and Sterling Avenue in the City of San Bernardino. The purpose of the plant is to treat East Valley Water District's flows currently flowing to the City of San Bernardino, and future flows from population growth in the East Valley Water District service area, and use that recycled water for groundwater storage through an Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) project. We noted that there was no mention in the NOP that the 6 MGD from EVWD's flows would not be included in the flow reduction projections. However, it does appear that the City of San Bernardino has determined that EVWD flows are not required to maintain habitat in the SAR as shown on Table 3 of the NOP.
2. Currently, the San Bernardino Municipal Water District treats 6 MGD of raw waste water from the EVWD. The baseline RIX discharge is stated to be 34.3 MGD in 2012, dropping to 24.8 MGD in 2020. Does this reduction also include the 6 MGD that will be lost as a result of the construction of the EVWD reclamation facility?
3. Section 1.0 - 3rd paragraph, on page 2 states that "Currently the SBWRP treats approximately 22 million gallons per day (MGD) of raw wastewater----to secondary standards". Same paragraph, later states that "The City of Colton conveys an additional 5.3 MGD of secondary treated effluent to the RIX facility for tertiary treatment and discharge to the river. Rix currently discharges approximately 31.3 MGD to SAR." The secondary effluent going to RIX is 27.3 MGD (22+5.3), how is the discharge currently then 31.3 MGD?



4. Under Purpose and Need heading on page 3, 3rd paragraph states that “ The proposed project is designed to reduce SBMWD’s dependence on imported water-----” 2nd sentence on page 2 under Section 1.0 states that “ SBMWD relies wholly on groundwater from the Bunker Hill Basin to meet its customers’ water demand.” How is it that SBMWD reducing its dependence on imported water?
5. Table 3 shows for the year 2015, RIX discharge of 29 MGD. If the SBWRP is currently treating 22 MGD, which is sent to RIX and an additional 5.3 MGD to RIX from the City of Colton, how can RIX discharge be 29 MGD?
6. On Page 10, under Consideration of Project Alternatives, first paragraph, last sentence states “The supplemental water recharge required for SBMWD to meet future water demands could reach 15,000 to 20,000 acre-feet per year by 2025.” Prior sentence states “Approximately 5,000 acre-feet per year of the groundwater pumped by SBMWD must be offset.....” How can it be 3 or 4 times as much? Is that increase due to population increases. Have the conservation requirements of SB 7 been considered?
7. The NOP mentions on Page 3 that the proposed project is designed to reduce SBMWD’s dependence on imported water.... Yet on Page 11, Option 4 includes an in-lieu option whereby a downstream user that received recycled water from SBMWD (i.e. Chino Basin users), would transfer a corresponding amount of SWP water to SBMWD. This scenario depends on imported SWP water which seems to contradict the intent of the project described on Page 3.
8. Page 5 lists a variety of treatment plant upgrades and conveyance facilities which would be necessary to provide up to 5 MGD of tertiary water to SBMWD customers for park irrigation, upgrades up to 15 MGD for advanced wastewater treatment consisting of 5 MGD modules using MBR technology, a conveyance system to the Waterman Basins, and conveyance facilities to the IEUA service area. There is no mention of how SBMWD intends to ensure that the costs of all of these improvements are not passed back to EVWD and Loma Linda in the form of higher treatment costs. EVWD and Loma Linda are currently charged for secondary treatment by SBMWD.
9. The NOP needs to consider how the proposed East Valley WD Sterling Recharge Facility will benefit the overall groundwater balance in the Bunker Hill Basin and associated potential improvements in regional water management.
10. The NOP needs to consider cumulative impacts of other water supply projects being considered by other agencies in the Upper Santa Ana watershed, including proposed projects by East Valley Water District (surface water facilities), Yucaipa Valley Water District (groundwater replenishment facilities), and the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (HCP and groundwater recharge).
11. There is no discussion regarding the projected cost of the proposed project and how those costs will be paid. In order to consider the full impact of the project the cost of the proposed facilities should be presented.



EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

89

LEADERSHIP • PARTNERSHIP • STEWARDSHIP

12. The NOP does not include any mention of the option of using existing San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District's State Water Project turnout at the Waterman Basins as an alternative to the City's project. A comparison of the proposed project against this option should be included in the description of options.

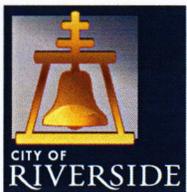
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the NOP. We look forward to your responses to our letter and request to be informed on any future actions and hearings regarding this development.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Holliman, PE
Engineering and Operations Manager
East Valley Water District

CC: John Mura, EVWD
Mike Maestas, EVWD
Ash Dhingra, EVWD

Scanned into laserfiche



City of Arts & Innovation
December 8, 2014



John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Via email: John.Claus@sbmwd.org

Re: **Notice of Preparation** of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project

Dear John,

The City of Riverside, relies on long established water export rights in the Bunker Hill and Riverside North groundwater basins to meet municipal, irrigation, and agricultural water needs of our community. Our agencies have worked jointly on water resource, recharge, and groundwater management policies and plans over the past several decades with great success. It is in that spirit which we share the following observations and concerns with the subject Notice of Preparation

The 1969 Judgment in Western Municipal Water District, et al. v. East San Bernardino County Water District, et al., (Superior Court No. 784726) and the companion judgment in Orange County Water District v. City of Chino, et al. (Superior Court No. 117628) provides the foundation for water resources development within the upper and lower areas of the Santa Ana River basin, and applies entitlements and obligations to different hydrologic units within the groundwater basins that assist to enforce the physical solution of the Judgment.

Riverside is concerned with 2 items which pertain to the Judgment and of which, have not been adequately addressed by the City of San Bernardino.

- The City of San Bernardino has an agreement with San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District to discharge a sufficient volume of effluent annually to the Santa Ana River to fulfill Valley District's 16,000 acre-feet obligation at the Narrows under the Judgment. The proposed project describes removing a greater amount of discharge from the river. We are in receipt of your Agency's December 1, 2014 correspondence with San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water



John Claus, City of San Bernardino
December 8, 2014

District regarding this matter. We request that San Bernardino address your obligation under your April 10, 1969 agreement and subsequent MOUs related to resolution of protests to Wastewater Change Petition WW0059.

- The City of San Bernardino proposes to export water from RIX for use on lands not within Western Municipal Water District nor tributary to the Riverside Narrows. This export will include effluent and groundwater from the Riverside North groundwater basin. We request that San Bernardino clarify and add additional detail to the project description that explains that exports from RIX will be less than or equal to the quantity of influent into RIX (i.e. discharge to SAR, at a minimum, will include all overproduction from Riverside North), such that no net export of groundwater occurs..

Finally, the City of San Bernardino's effluent has historically and currently provides recharge to the Riverside basin (North and South basins). The proposed project will remove this source of recharge and will have an impact to the basin and the groundwater production wells which pump from it. Riverside requests that the impacts be analyzed and mitigated to the extent appropriate.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the project NOP and look forward to a construct conversation with regard to the issues noted.

Best Regards,



Kevin S. Milligan, P.E.

Utilities Assistant General Manager



December 8, 2014

Mr. John A. Claus
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408

Subject: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report
Clean Water Factory Project
State Clearinghouse No. 2014111012

Dear Mr. Claus:

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Clean Water Factory Project (project) [State Clearinghouse No. 2014111012]. The Department is responding to the NOP as a Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources (California Fish and Game Code Sections 711.7 and 1802, and the California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA] Guidelines Section 15386), and as a Responsible Agency regarding any discretionary actions (CEQA Guidelines Section 15381), such as the issuance of a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (California Fish and Game Code Sections 1600 *et seq.*) and/or a California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Permit for Incidental Take of Endangered, Threatened, and/or Candidate species (California Fish and Game Code Sections 2080 and 2080.1).

Project Description

The project is proposed within various locations within the Cities of San Bernardino and Colton, in San Bernardino County, California. The project, as proposed by the San Bernardino Municipal Water District (SBMWD) will consist of the following elements: improvements to the existing San Bernardino Water Reclamation Plant (SBWRP); construction of pipelines and associated appurtenances to convey recycled water from the SBWRP to the existing Waterman Basins and East Twin Creek Spreading Grounds; a reduction of up to approximately 22 million gallons per day of treated wastewater discharges into the Santa Ana River from the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX); and the construction of pipelines and associated appurtenances to convey recycled water from the RIX facility to the Chino Groundwater Basin and the Inland Empire Utility Agency's non-potable system.

Biological Resources and Impacts

The CEQA document should contain sufficient, specific, and current biological information on the existing habitat and species at the Project site; measures to minimize and avoid sensitive biological resources; and mitigation measures to offset the loss of native flora and fauna and State waters. The CEQA document should not defer impact analysis and mitigation measures to future regulatory discretionary actions, such as a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement.

If state or federal endangered or threatened species have the potential to occur on the Project site, species specific surveys should be conducted using methods approved by the Department or assume the presence of the species throughout the project site. Based on a review of the Department's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and knowledge of species occurrences within the general vicinity of the Project site, the following state or federally endangered, threatened, or candidate species have the potential to occur on or near the project area: Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly (*Rhaphiomidas terminatus abdominalis*), least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), Parry's spineflower (*Chorizanthe parryi* var. *parryi*), Santa Ana Sucker (*Catostomus santaanae*), Santa Ana River Woollystar (*Eriastrum densifolium* ssp. *sanctorum*), thread-leaved brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*), and burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*), a species of special concern.

The Department is particularly concerned regarding the potential impacts of this project on Santa Ana Sucker downstream of the RIX facility. The Department recommends that the DEIR include a thorough analysis of the project's potential direct and indirect effects on this species. The Draft Recovery Plan for Santa Ana Sucker (USFWS 2014) identifies habitat loss, degradation, and modification through hydrological modifications as primary threats to the species. In the Department's opinion, this project has the potential to negatively impact Santa Ana Sucker: the project will result in the hydrological modification of the Santa Ana River along a currently occupied reach from a reduction in flow from the RIX facility, which may in turn negatively affect both the quantity and quality of suitable habitat. The Department recommends that the DEIR include an analysis of potential project-related impacts to substrate, water depth, and velocity, at a minimum, downstream of the RIX facility. Because the availability of appropriate substrate in sufficient quantity is required by this species for successful reproduction, juvenile development, and growth of algae, their primary food source, particular focus should be directed to analyzing the project's potential impacts on in-stream substrate (downstream of the RIX facility).

Per CEQA Guidelines Section 15125(a) the CEQA document should include *recent* survey data. The CEQA document should also address species of special concern and federal critical habitat. To assist with review, an accompanying map showing the areas of impact should be included in the DEIR. Additional maps detailing the location of endangered, threatened, or species of special concern should also be included in the DEIR.

California Endangered Species Act (CESA)

The Department is responsible for ensuring appropriate conservation of fish and wildlife resources including threatened, endangered, and/or candidate plant and animal species, pursuant to the CESA. The Department recommends that a CESA ITP be obtained if the Project has the potential to result in "take" (California Fish and Game Code Section 86 defines "take" as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill") of State-listed CESA species, either through construction or over the life of the Project. CESA ITPs are issued to conserve, protect, enhance, and restore State-listed CESA species and their habitats. The Department encourages early consultation, as significant modification to the proposed project and mitigation measures may be necessary to obtain a CESA ITP. Revisions to the California Fish and Game Code, effective January 1998, require that the Department issue a separate CEQA document for the issuance of a CESA ITP unless the Project CEQA document addresses all Project impacts to listed species and specifies a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of a CESA permit.

Nesting Birds and Migratory Bird Treaty Act, including Burrowing Owl

Please note that it is the project proponent's responsibility to comply with all applicable laws related to nesting birds and birds of prey. Migratory non-game native bird species are protected by international treaty under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as amended (16 U.S.C. 703 *et seq.*). In addition, sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3513 of the Fish and Game Code (FGC) also afford protective measures as follows: Section 3503 states that it is unlawful to take, possess, or needlessly destroy the nest or eggs of any bird, except as otherwise provided by FGC or any regulation made pursuant thereto; Section 3503.5 states that it is unlawful to take, possess, or destroy any birds in the orders Falconiformes or Strigiformes (birds-of-prey) or to take, possess, or destroy the nest or eggs of any such bird except as otherwise provided by FGC or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto; and Section 3513 states that it is unlawful to take or possess any migratory nongame bird as designated in the MBTA or any part of such migratory nongame bird except as provided by rules and regulations adopted by the Secretary of the Interior under provisions of the MBTA.

The Department recommends that the DEIR include the results of avian surveys, as well as specific avoidance and minimization measures to ensure that impacts to nesting birds do not occur. Project-specific avoidance and minimization measures may include, but not be limited to: project phasing and timing, monitoring of project-related noise (where applicable), sound walls, and buffers, where appropriate. The DEIR should also include specific avoidance and minimization measures that will be implemented should a nest be located within the project site. If pre-construction surveys are proposed in the DEIR, the Department recommends that they be required no more than three (3) days

prior to vegetation clearing or ground disturbance activities, as instances of nesting could be missed if surveys are conducted sooner.

Lake and Streambed Alteration Program

For any activity that will divert or obstruct the natural flow, or change the bed, channel, or bank (which may include associated riparian resources) of a river or stream or use material from a streambed, the project applicant (or "entity") must provide written notification to the Department pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code. Based on this notification and other information, the Department then determines whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement is required. The Department's issuance of an LSA Agreement is a "project" subject to CEQA (see Pub. Resources Code 21065). To facilitate issuance of an LSA Agreement, if necessary, the environmental document should fully identify the potential impacts to the lake, stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, and monitoring and reporting commitments. Early consultation with the Department is recommended, since modification of the proposed project may be required to avoid or reduce impacts to fish and wildlife resources. To obtain a Lake or Streambed Alteration notification package, please go to <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/1600/forms.html>.

Please note that the Department has observed that several biological consulting companies in the area are incorrectly referencing California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 14, section 1.72 in reference to the Department's jurisdiction under section 1600 *et seq.* of the Fish and Game Code. Please note that CCR Title 14, section 1.72 *does not* pertain to the Department's jurisdiction as embodied in California Fish and Game Code (FGC) section 1600 *et seq.*, and *is not* the definition of a stream used by the Department. The section 1.72 definition was developed to address a specific sport fish issue that came before the Fish and Game Commission, and although the definition does speak to periodic and intermittent flow, section 1.72 is limited to fish-bearing or aquatic life-bearing streams.

Rather than limiting Department jurisdiction to fish-bearing streams alone, FGC Chapter 6, Fish and Wildlife Protection and Conservation, Section 1600 *et seq.* was enacted to provide for the conservation of fish and wildlife resources associated with stream ecosystems. The FGC further defines fish and wildlife to include: all wild animals, birds, plants, fish, amphibians, invertebrates, reptiles, and related ecological communities, including the habitat upon which they depend for continued viability (FGC Division 5, Chapter 1, section 45, and Division 2, Chapter 1, section 711.2(a), respectively). Fish means wild fish, mollusks, crustaceans, invertebrates, or amphibians, including any part, spawn or ova thereof (FGC, Division 5, Chapter 1, section 45).

For the purposes of implementing sections 1601 and 1603 of the FGC, California Code of Regulations Title 14, section 720 requires submission to the Department of "...general plans sufficient to indicate the nature of a project for construction by or on behalf of any person, government agency, state or local, and any public utility, of any project which will divert, obstruct or change the natural flow or bed of any river, stream

or lake designated by the Department, or will use material from the streambeds designated by the Department, all rivers, streams, lakes, and streambeds in the State of California, including all rivers, streams and streambeds which may have intermittent flows of water, are hereby designated for such purpose.”

Division 2, Chapter 5, Article 6, Section 1600 *et seq.* of the California Fish and Game Code does not limit jurisdiction to areas defined by specific flow events, seasonal changes in water flow, or presence or absence of specific vegetation types or communities. By long practice, the Department defines a stream as “a body of water that flows perennially or episodically and that is defined by the area in which water currently flows, or has flowed, over a given course during the historic hydrologic regime, and where the width of its course can reasonably be identified by physical or biological indicators. The “*historic hydrologic regime*” is defined in practice by the Department as circa 1800 to the present.” Thus, a channel is not defined by a specific flow event, nor by the path of surface water as this path might vary seasonally. Rather, it is the Department’s practice to define the channel based on the topography or elevations of land that confine the water to a definite course when the waters of a creek rise to their highest point.

The Department's website has information regarding dryland streams in "A review of Stream Processes and Forms in Dryland Watersheds," available at this location: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/1600/1600resources.html>.

Additional information can also be found in “Methods to Describe and Delineate Episodic Stream Processes on Arid Landscapes for Permitting Utility-Scale Solar Power Plants, With the MESA Field Guide - Final Project Report” (Mesa Report) available here: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/2014publications/CEC-500-2014-013/index.html> Please review page 9 of the Mesa Report. Please also refer to page E-14, which includes the definition of a stream used by the Department’s Lake and Streambed Alteration Program.

The following information will be required for the processing of a Notification of Lake or Streambed Alteration and the Department recommends incorporating this information into the CEQA document to avoid subsequent documentation and project delays. Please note that failure to include this analysis in the project’s environmental document could preclude the Department from relying on the Lead Agency’s analysis to issue an LSA Agreement without the Department first conducting its own, separate Lead Agency subsequent or supplemental analysis for the project:

- 1) Delineation of lakes, streams, and associated habitat that will be temporarily and/or permanently impacted by the proposed project (include an estimate of impact to each habitat type);
- 2) Discussion of avoidance and minimization measures to reduce project impacts; and,

- 3) Discussion of potential mitigation measures required to reduce the project impacts to a level of insignificance. Please refer to section 15370 of the CEQA Guidelines for the definition of mitigation.

Cumulative Impacts

The Project is proposed in a densely populated region of southern California. The regional scarcity of biological resources may increase the cumulative significance of Project activities. Cumulative effects analysis should be developed as described under CEQA Guidelines Section 15130. Please include all potential direct and indirect project related impacts to riparian areas, wetlands, vernal pools, alluvial fan habitats, wildlife corridors or wildlife movement areas, aquatic habitats, sensitive species and other sensitive habitats, open lands, open space, and adjacent natural habitats in the cumulative effects analysis.

Alternatives Analysis

The CEQA document should analyze a range of fully considered and evaluated alternatives to the Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6). The analysis should include a range of alternatives which avoid or otherwise minimize impacts to sensitive biological resources. The Department considers Rare Natural Communities as threatened habitats, having both local and regional significance. Thus, these communities should be fully avoided and otherwise protected from Project-related impacts. The CEQA document should include an evaluation of specific alternative locations with lower resource sensitivity where appropriate. Off-site compensation for unavoidable impacts through acquisition and protection of high-quality habitat should be addressed.

Please note that the Department generally does not support the use of relocation, salvage, and/or transplantation as mitigation for impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species. Department studies have shown that these efforts are experimental in nature and largely unsuccessful.

Department Recommendations

The Department requests that the DEIR address the following:

1. The CEQA document should quantify impacts to habitats and species as per the informational requirements of CEQA. An accompanying map showing the areas of impact should also be included.
2. The CEQA document should include *recent* biological surveys for fauna and flora (CEQA Guidelines Section 15125(a)). The Department recommends that the Lead Agency contact the Department's California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) in Sacramento, (916) 327-5960, to obtain current information on any

previously reported sensitive species and habitat, including Significant Natural Areas identified under Chapter 12 of the California Fish and Game Code. Please note that the Department's CNDDDB is not exhaustive in terms of the data it houses, nor is it an absence database. The Department recommends that it be used as a starting point in gathering information about the *potential presence* of species within the general area of the project site. If state or federal threatened or endangered species may occur within the project area, species specific surveys, conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day, should be included with the CEQA document. Acceptable species specific surveys have been developed by the Department, and by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and are accessible through each agencies websites. Assessments for rare plants and rare plant natural communities should follow the Department's 2009 Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities. If the Department's 2009 guidelines were not used, surveys conducted after the issuance of the 2009 guidance should be updated following the 2009 guidelines. The guidance document is available here: http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/protocols_for_surveying_and_evaluating_impacts.pdf

3. The analysis in the CEQA document should satisfy the requirements of the Department's Lake and Streambed Alteration Program and CESA (if deemed necessary).
4. The Department recommends that a CESA ITP be obtained if the Project has the potential to result in "take" (California Fish and Game Code Section 86 defines "take" as "hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill") of State-listed CESA species, either through construction or over the life of the Project. CESA ITPs are issued to conserve, protect, enhance, and restore State-listed CESA species and their habitats. The Department encourages early consultation, as significant modification to the proposed project and mitigation measures may be recommended in order to obtain a CESA ITP. Revisions to the California Fish and Game Code, effective January 1998, require that the Department issue a separate CEQA document for the issuance of a CESA ITP unless the Project CEQA document addresses all Project impacts to listed species and specifies a mitigation monitoring and reporting program that will meet the requirements of a CESA permit.
5. The CEQA document should provide a thorough analysis of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts and identify specific measures to offset such impacts.
6. The CEQA document should analyze a range of fully considered and evaluated alternatives to the Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6).

Notice of Preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Report
Clean Water Factory Project
SCH No. 2014111012
Page 8 of 8

Further Coordination

In summary, the Department requests that the DEIR include current information regarding biological resources, provide a thorough analysis of potential impacts to Santa Ana Sucker, provide a cumulative impacts, and provide an alternatives analysis. If you should have any questions pertaining to these comments, please contact Joanna Gibson at (909) 987-7449 or at Joanna.gibson@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,


Kimberly Nicol
Regional Manager

cc: State Clearinghouse, Sacramento

Literature Cited

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2014. Draft Recovery Plan for the Santa Ana sucker.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Southwest Region, Sacramento, California. v
+ 61 pp.



*protecting and restoring natural ecosystems and imperiled species through
science, education, policy, and environmental law*

via email and USPS

12/23/2014

John A. Claus
Director of Water Reclamation
City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department
399 Chandler Place
San Bernardino, CA 92408
John.Claus@sbmwd.org

RE: Scoping comments on Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project

Dear Mr. Claus

Please accept the following scoping comments on the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the Clean Water Factory Project (project) on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity (the "Center"). The comments below refer to both the impacts of the project itself, and to the impacts of the construction of the project, from beginning to completion.

The Center is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection of native species and their habitats in the Western Hemisphere through science, policy, and environmental law. The Center has over 800,000 members and on-line activists throughout California and the western United States, including members within the project vicinity. The Center has been involved in Santa Ana River issues for years, including protesting previous efforts to divert recharge water from the Rapid Infiltration and Extraction (RIX) plant at the State Water Board, because of the significant downstream impacts that would occur to the Santa Ana sucker.

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and the San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) will prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Clean Water Factory Project (proposed project) in San Bernardino County, California. The proposed project contemplates significant reduction the flows of discharged water over time into the Santa Ana River from the RIX facility. Currently the RIX facility discharges provide above ground, year-round flows that sustain the highly vulnerable and federally threatened Santa Ana sucker. The sucker population in the Santa Ana River is in decline. This project needs to avoid any impacts to this declining species and its habitat in order to minimize the need for uplisting this species to endangered.

These flows also sustain nesting habitat for the federally and State endangered and least Bell's vireo, the federally and state endangered southwestern willow flycatcher and the federally

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threatened and state endangered yellow-billed cuckoo. The proposed project will also affect federally designated critical habitat for the Santa Ana sucker, least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher, and proposed critical habitat for the yellow-billed cuckoo.

Biological Resources

Complete surveys and documentation of all locations for any rare, sensitive, threatened and endangered species need to be accurately evaluated and used as a basis for impact analysis. The project then needs to be designed to avoid and minimize impacts to these declining species.

Other rare species with potential to occur on the project site and tracked by state and federal resource agencies include:

Common Name	Scientific Name	State/Federal/Other Status
Marsh sandwort	<i>Arenaria paludicola</i>	CE/FE
Orange-throated whiptail	<i>Aspidoscelis hyperythra</i>	SSC
Horn's milk-vetch	<i>Astragalus hornii</i> var. <i>hornii</i>	CA 1B.1
Burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	SSC
Lawrence's goldfinch	<i>Carduelis lawrencei</i>	
Bristly sedge	<i>Carex comosa</i>	CA 2.1
Busck's gallmoth	<i>Carolella busckana</i>	
Greenest tiger beetle	<i>Cicindela tranquebarica</i> <i>viridissima</i>	SSC
Smooth tarplant	<i>Centromadia pungens</i> ssp. <i>laevis</i>	CA 1B.1
Cuckoo wasp	<i>Ceratochrysis longimala</i>	
Parry's spineflower	<i>Chorizanthe parryi</i> var. <i>parryi</i>	CA 1B.1
Western yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i> <i>occidentalis</i>	CE/FT
San Bernardino kangaroo rat	<i>Dipodomys merriami</i> <i>parvus</i>	FE/SSC
Stephen's kangaroo rat	<i>Dipodomys stephensi</i>	CT/FE
Slender-horned spineflower	<i>Dodecahema leptoceras</i>	CE/FE/CA 1B.1
California horned lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i> <i>actia</i>	
Western mastiff bat	<i>Eumops perotis</i> <i>californicus</i>	SSC
Yellow-breasted chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>	SSC
Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	SSC/FSC/MB
Western yellow bat	<i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i>	
Robinson's pepper-grass	<i>Lepidium virginicum</i> var. <i>robinsonii</i>	CA 1B.2
San Diego black-tailed	<i>Lepus californicus</i>	SSC

jackrabbit	<i>bennettii</i>	
Pocketed free-tailed bat	<i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i>	SSC
Brand's phacelia	<i>Phacelia stellaris</i>	CA 1B.1
Coast (San Diego) horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma coronatum (blainvillii population)</i>	SSC
Coastal California gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila californica californica</i>	SSC/FT
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	SSC/FP/FSC
Parish's gooseberry	<i>Ribes divaricatum var. parishii</i>	CA 1A
Salt spring checkerbloom	<i>Sidalcea neomexicana</i>	CA 2.2
Western spadefoot	<i>Spea hammondii</i>	SSC
<p>State Designation CE State listed as endangered. Species whose continued existence in California is jeopardized. CT State listed as threatened. Species that although not presently threatened in California with extinction are likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future. SSC "Species of Special Concern." Species with declining populations in California.</p> <p>Federal Designation FE Federally listed as endangered. FT Federally listed as threatened. FP Federally protected (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act) Other</p> <p>California Rare Plant Rank 1A Plants presumed extinct in California 1B.1 Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere and seriously threatened in CA. 1B.2 Plants Rare, Threatened, or Endangered in California and Elsewhere and fairly threatened in CA. 2.1 Plant rare, threatened or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere, and seriously threatened in CA. 2.2 Plant rare, threatened or endangered in California, but more common elsewhere, and fairly threatened in CA.</p>		

All of these species need to be surveyed for and the project designed to avoid and minimize impacts to them. If avoidance is infeasible, then strong mitigation measures must be implemented to off-set impacts to these rare species to prevent listing or uplisting and provide recovery opportunities.

In addition, several rare plant communities are also known from the general project area including Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest and Southern Riparian Scrub. Enhancement opportunities for these rare and declining plant communities should be part of this project.

Locally Rare Species

In order to present a full picture of the biological impacts of the project, the EIS/R needs to evaluate the impact of the proposed permitted activities on locally rare species (not merely federal- and state-listed threatened and endangered species). The preservation of regional and local scales of genetic diversity is very important to maintaining species. Therefore, all species found at the edge of their ranges or that occur at disjunct locations must be evaluated for impacts by the proposed permitted activities.

Biological Surveys and Mapping

In order to present a full picture of the biological impacts of the project, thorough, seasonally appropriate surveys must be performed for sensitive plant species and vegetation communities, and animal species under the direction and supervision of the resource agencies such as the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game. Full disclosure of survey results to the public and other agencies without limitations must be implemented to assure full CEQA/NEPA compliance.

Surveys for the plants and plant communities should follow California Native Plant Society (CNPS)¹ and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) floristic survey guidelines² and should be documented as recommended by CNPS³ and California Botanical Society policy guidelines. A full floral inventory of all species encountered needs to be documented and included in the EIS/R. Surveys for animals should include an evaluation of the California Wildlife Habitat Relationship System's (CWHR) Habitat Classification Scheme. All rare species (plants or animals) need to be documented with a California Natural Diversity Data Base form and submitted to the California Department of Fish and Game using the CNDDDB Form⁴ as per the State's instructions⁵.

In order for the public to properly evaluate the data, the vegetation maps must be at a large enough scale to be useful for evaluating the impacts. Vegetation/wetland habitat mapping should be at such a scale as to provide an accurate accounting of wetland and adjacent habitat types that will be directly or indirectly affected by the proposed activities. A half-acre minimum mapping unit size is recommended, such as has been used for other development projects. Habitat classification should follow both CNPS' Manual of California Vegetation.

Impact Analysis

The EIS/R must evaluate all direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to sensitive habitats, including impacts associated with unpermitted recreational activities, the introduction of non-native plants, and the loss and disruption of critical and essential habitat.

1 <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/rareplants/inventory/guidelines.php>

2 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/Protocols_for_Surveying_and_Evaluating_Impacts.pdf

3 <http://www.cnps.org/cnps/archive/collecting.php>

4 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/pdfs/CNDDDB_FieldSurveyForm.pdf

5 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata/cnddb/submitting_data_to_cnddb.asp

The EIS/R must identify and evaluate impacts to species and ecosystems from invasive, exotic species. For example, earlier this year, the highly invasive red algae (*Compsopogon coeruleus*) was documented in the Santa Ana sucker occupied habitat in the Santa Ana River.⁶ Additionally, mesic terrestrial exotic species such as giant reed (*Arundo donax*) is also present in the Santa Ana River and has potential to invade and displace native vegetation upon which numerous species depend. Invasive species displace native vegetation, degrade functioning ecosystems, and provide little or no habitat for native animals. All of these factors for exotic plants are present in the project, and their effects must be evaluated in the EIS/R.

Wildlife Movement

A thorough and independent evaluation of the project's impacts on wildlife movement is essential. The Santa Ana River corridor is one of the last, best, albeit tenuous, linkages for wildlife movement through the highly urbanized inland empire to larger conservation refugia. The EIS/R must evaluate all direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to wildlife movement corridors from any changes in hydrology. The analysis should cover movement of mammals, as well as other taxonomic groups, including birds, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, and vegetation communities. The EIS/R should analyze whether wildlife movement would be further impeded by changes in hydrology.

Mitigation and Restoration

For affected sensitive habitat and vegetation types, the EIS/R should prioritize avoidance, followed by durable habitat replacement at a mitigation ratio calculated to ensure success, followed by durable onsite restoration and enhancement, followed by durable off-site mitigation. Identification and securing of mitigation areas, with establishment of effective long-term management, should occur prior to any change in hydrological regimes.

Specific, feasible, and enforceable mitigation measures for impacts associated with unpermitted recreational activities, the introduction of non-native plants, and the loss and disruption of essential habitat due to the proposed project are available and should be included in the EIS/R,.

Habitat enhancement, particularly for avian species should be incorporated into the project to enhance the corridor for habitat and nesting.

Air Quality

The EIS/R must consider the project's potential to impair attainment goals for the Air Basin. The EIS/R should consider specific mitigation measures to reduce air quality impacts associated with any reduction in surface flows, reduction in stabilizing vegetation and all earth moving during construction and maintenance, including a firm requirement for construction equipment to use low-sulfur diesel fuel and particulate traps.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

⁶ <http://www.pe.com/articles/fish-693195-river-algae.html>

The EIS/R must disclose the project's net contribution to greenhouse gas emissions from all sources and incorporate feasible mitigation measures and alternatives to reduce this impact. For mobile sources, since consistency with the AQMP will not necessarily achieve the maximum feasible reduction in mobile source greenhouse emissions, the EIS/R should evaluate specific mitigation measures to reduce greenhouse emissions from mobile sources. Consistent with California law setting greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals, the EIS/R should consider measures and an alternative that achieve "carbon neutrality" (no net contribution of greenhouse gas emissions) for the project.

Water Quality

The EIS/R must provide detailed descriptions of the project's water quality impacts. In particular, the EIS/R must evaluate the water quality impacts associated with the any decreases in flows that may concentrate substances detrimental to the health/life of sensitive downstream receptors, such as pesticides, hormones and fertilizer. These impacts must be disclosed and analyzed in the EIS/R.

Water Supply

The EIS/R must identify all sources of water for the project. The EIS/R must also evaluate all environmental impacts associated with use of any identified water sources. The EIS/R should disclose the legal status of any water rights asserted as a basis for the project's water supply, and indicate any further administrative or legal proceedings that are necessary to perfect such rights.

Cumulative Impacts

As proposed, the project is another cut in the "death by 1000 cuts" of the Santa Ana River system, which is a unique regional feature. The EIS/R must disclose the impacts from all proposed adjacent projects. It is impossible to fully understand the impacts of the project, particularly its regional impacts on the rare species, wildlife movement, etc. without full disclosure of all other approved, proposed, and planned projects.

As required by NEPA/CEQA, the EIS/R must include a list of past, present, and probable future projects producing related or cumulative impacts, together with a summary of the expected environmental impacts from those projects and a reasonable analysis of the cumulative impacts of the relevant projects.

Alternatives

The EIS/R should consider a range of alternatives that reduce or avoid the project's significant environmental impacts.

Environmental Baseline

The baseline for environmental analysis should not simply be set based on the existing environmental conditions because the environment itself is changing. Instead, the EIS/R analysis should be based on a dynamic baseline that accounts for global warming (this may particularly affect water supply and demand and wildlife movement patterns).

While we recognize that these scoping are submitted a few weeks after the official scoping deadline on December 8, 2014, we hope and expect these comments will be considered in preparing the DEIS/R. Please add us to the distribution list for the EIS/R and all notices associated with the project.

Sincerely,



Heene Anderson
Senior Scientist
Center for Biological Diversity
ianderson@biologicaldiversity.org

