

NOTICE OF PREPARATION AND SCOPING MEETING

North San Diego Water Reuse Coalition Regional Recycled Water Project

TO: Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

DATE: August 11, 2014

SUBJECT: Notice of Preparation of a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Report and Notice of Scoping Meeting

Olivenhain Municipal Water District (MWD) will be the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in the preparation of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) for the North San Diego Water Reuse Coalition's (NSDWRC or Coalition) Regional Recycled Water Project (Proposed Project). Olivenhain MWD will prepare the PEIR on behalf of the Coalition, listed below:

1. Carlsbad Municipal Water District (Carlsbad MWD)
2. City of Escondido
3. City of Oceanside
4. Leucadia Wastewater District (Leucadia WWD)
5. Olivenhain Municipal Water District (Olivenhain MWD)
6. Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District (Rincon del Diablo MWD)
7. San Elijo Joint Powers Authority (San Elijo JPA)
8. Santa Fe Irrigation District (Santa Fe ID)
9. Vallecitos Water District (Vallecitos WD)
10. Vista Irrigation District (Vista ID)

This PEIR will be a joint document intended to comply with both CEQA and NEPA (see California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3, Section 15222 and Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 40, Sections 1502.25, 1506.2, and 1506.4 (authority for combining federal and state environmental documents)).

This PEIR will address the Proposed Project at a programmatic level; the Proposed Project will consist of construction and operation of the pipelines, pumping stations, water treatment plants, and other facilities necessary to produce and deliver 18,728 AFY of recycled and potable reuse water by 2025 and an additional 16,662 AFY of recycled and potable reuse water by 2035. Olivenhain MWD is requesting identification of environmental issues and information that you or your organization believes should be considered in the PEIR.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: August 11, 2014 through September 9, 2014

RESPONSES AND COMMENTS: Please indicate a contact person for your agency or organization and send your responses and comments by September 9, 2014 to:

Ms. Kimberly Thorner
Olivenhain Municipal Water District
1966 Olivenhain Road
Encinitas, CA 92024

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E-mail: kthorner@olivenhain.com

SCOPING MEETING: Olivenhain MWD will hold one community meeting to receive comments on the scope and content of the NSDWRC's Regional Recycled Water Project PEIR. You are welcome to attend and present environmental information that you believe should be considered in the PEIR. The scoping meeting is scheduled as follows:

Date: Monday, August 25, 2014
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Olivenhain Municipal Water District
1966 Olivenhain Road
Encinitas, CA 92024

AGENCIES: Olivenhain MWD requests your agency's views on the scope and content of the environmental information relevant to your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project, in accordance with CEQA and NEPA. Your agency will need to use the PEIR prepared by Olivenhain MWD when considering any permits that your agency must issue, or other approvals for the project.

PROJECT LOCATION: The NSDWRC's Regional Recycled Water Project is located within northern San Diego County, California and includes the collective service areas of the ten north San Diego County agencies that constitute the Coalition as shown in **Figure 1**. The western boundary of the project area is defined by the Pacific Ocean. The northern boundary of the project area is roughly defined by the boundary with Camp Pendleton and Rainbow Municipal Water District. The eastern boundary of the project is roughly the border with Valley Center Municipal Water District, the City of Poway, and the City of San Diego. To the south, the project area is roughly bounded by the City of San Diego.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The NSDWRC's Regional Recycled Water Project consists of development of regional recycled water and potable reuse water infrastructure that includes interagency connections to increase the capacity and connectivity of the storage and distribution systems of the Coalition. The Proposed Project includes replacing potable water uses with recycled water components, converting facilities to recycled water service, connecting discrete recycled water systems to one another, increasing recycled water storage capacity, and distributing recycled water to effectively meet recycled water demands. Estimated existing recycled water demands associated with the Proposed Project for the Coalition are 10,110 AFY. Future additional recycled (non-potable) water demands associated with the Proposed Project are anticipated to total 11,888 AFY in 2025 and increase by 10,142 AFY in 2035 for a total of 31,040 AFY in the long-term. Future recycled

water supplies associated with the Proposed Project would serve demands associated with irrigation in housing developments, commercial properties such as business parks, and golf courses. A portion of the recycled water demand would serve agricultural customers, mainly those who would be connected to the Easterly Main Extension through the City of Escondido and the Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District project components.

The Proposed Project would also involve using recycled water for potable reuse, where recycled water is purified via advanced water treatment and mixed back into the water supply system after it is filtered through an environmental buffer such as a groundwater basin or surface reservoir. After the water has been through an environmental buffer, it is then treated at a water treatment facility and added to the potable supply, in the same manner as untreated imported supplies or untreated groundwater. It is anticipated that potable reuse will provide up to 7,940 AFY of water by 2025 and an additional 6,520 AFY of water by 2035 for a total maximum of 14,460 AFY by 2035. Five groundwater basins and two surface reservoir sites have been identified for future potential potable reuse: Mission Basin, San Marcos Basin, San Elijo Valley Basin, San Dieguito Basin, Escondido Valley Basin, San Dieguito Reservoir, and Lake Dixon. These sites are shown in **Figure 2**; while **Figure 2** shows the potable reuse sites (groundwater basins and surface reservoirs), the figure does not show the proposed pipelines or facilities potentially associated with potable reuse as the precise location of those alignments and facilities are not known at this time.

In total, future additional average demands for recycled water and potable reuse water associated with the Proposed Project are anticipated to increase by 18,728 AFY by 2025 to a total of 28,838 AFY, and by another 16,662 AFY by 2035 for a total of 45,500 AFY. The Proposed Project includes detailed information about the short-term (2025) project components, while the long-term (2035) project components are not included in detail as part of the Proposed Project. The short-term (2025) project components associated with the Proposed Project and shown in **Figure 2** have been categorized into groups, which are referenced below in **Table 1**. The groups show the treatment plant that would provide recycled water or potable reuse water (from advanced water treatment [AWT] facilities) as well as the Coalition Member with which the demands are associated.

In order to meet the short-term recycled water and potable reuse demands associated with the Proposed Project, six existing treatment plants (also referred to as water reclamation facilities [WRF] or wastewater treatment plants [WWTP]) will need to be upgraded and three additional treatment plants will need to be constructed. Additional treatment plant upgrades will be required in order to meet the long-term recycled water demands associated with the Proposed Project. Further, in the long-term, any of the treatment plants in the region may be upgraded to include AWT components to supply water for potable reuse.

At various locations along the construction route(s), staging areas would be required to store pipe, construction equipment, and other construction-related material. Staging areas would be established along the route where space is available, such as vacant lots, roadway turnouts, and parking lots. Typical construction activities during construction of the non-potable water system would include site preparation, earthwork, pipe installation, structural improvements (foundations and footings), paving, electrical/ instrumentation installation, startup, and testing work.

Table 1: Existing and Future Average Recycled Water and Potable Reuse Demands for the Proposed Project

Coalition Member	Group	Treatment Plant	Existing Demands	Average Demand Increase (AFY)		Total Demand (AFY)
				By 2025	By 2035	
Carlsbad MWD	A	Carlsbad WRF/Gafner WRF	2,150	1,752	1,398	5,300
	B	Meadowlark WRF	2,000	0	187	2,187
		<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>4,150</i>	<i>1,752</i>	<i>1,585</i>	<i>7,487</i>
City of Escondido	C	HARRF	771	4,670	3,035	8,476
	D	Escondido AWTF (Potable Reuse)	0	2,200	0	2,200
		<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>771</i>	<i>6,870</i>	<i>3,035</i>	<i>10,676</i>
City of Oceanside	E	Carlsbad WRF	0	277	0	277
	F	El Corazon WRF	0	560	1,130	1,690
	G	San Luis Rey WWTP/SRTTP	300	1,640	0	1,940
	G	San Luis Rey WWTP – AWT (Potable Reuse)	0	2,240	3,360	5,600
		<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>300</i>	<i>4,717</i>	<i>4,490</i>	<i>9,507</i>
Olivenhain MWD	N/A	Meadowlark WRF*	1,000	0	0	1,000
	H	San Elijo WRF/Gafner WRF	100	300	0	400
	H	San Elijo WRF – AWT (Potable Reuse)	0	1,100	1,030	2,130
		<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>1,400</i>	<i>1,030</i>	<i>3,530</i>
Rincon del Diablo MWD	I	HARRF	3,279	500	0	3,779
	I	HARRF – AWT (Potable Reuse)	0	200	0	200
	J	Harmony Grove WRF	0	220	0	220
		<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>3,279</i>	<i>920</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>4,199</i>
Santa Fe ID	K**	San Elijo WRF/Gafner WRF	510	40-729	0	550-1,239
	K**	San Elijo WRF – AWT (Potable Reuse)	0	0-1,100	1,030	1,030-2,130
		<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>510</i>	<i>729-1,140</i>	<i>1,030</i>	<i>2,269-2680</i>
Vallecitos Water District	L	Carlsbad WRF	0	0	454	454
	M	HARRF	0	574	922	1,496
	N	Meadowlark WRF	0	0	416	416
	N	Meadowlark WRF – AWT (Potable Reuse)	0	1,100	1,100	2,200
		<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>1,674</i>	<i>2,892</i>	<i>4,566</i>
Vista Irrigation District	O	Carlsbad WRF	0	255	1,880	2,135
	P	El Corazon WRF	0	0	720	720
		<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>255</i>	<i>2,600</i>	<i>2,855</i>
Total Additional Demand for Proposed Project**			10,110	18,728	16,662	45,500
Total Cumulative Demand for Proposed Project**			--	28,838	45,500	

Coalition Member	Group	Treatment Plant	Existing Demands	Average Demand Increase (AFY)		Total Demand (AFY)
				By 2025	By 2035	
<p>* These connections are not included within the groupings, because while they have existing recycled water demands, which are included in the total recycled water flows for the Coalition, there are no future recycled water demands or associated recycled water facilities for these entities for purposes of the Proposed Project.</p> <p>** Santa Fe ID will implement either 1,100 AFY of potable reuse at the San Dieguito Reservoir or 689 AFY of recycled water to meet demands in the eastern service area for Group K. Both projects will not take place in the short-term, so total demands for Group K and total demands associated with the Proposed Project are shown as ranges assuming only one of the Group K projects will move forward.</p>						

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: A PEIR will be prepared to evaluate the Proposed Project's potential environmental impacts and analyze project alternatives. The topic areas anticipated to be discussed in the PEIR are listed and checkmarked in the following table and described further below. This PEIR will be a joint document intended to comply with both CEQA and NEPA; accordingly, topic areas specific to NEPA, such as Environmental Justice, will also be evaluated with respect to the Proposed Project.

X	Aesthetics		Agricultural Resources	X	Air Quality
X	Biological Resources	X	Cultural Resources	X	Geology and Soils
X	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	X	Hazards and Hazardous Materials	X	Hydrology and Water Quality
X	Land Use and Planning		Mineral Resources	X	Noise
	Population and Housing	X	Public Services	X	Recreation
X	Transportation and Traffic	X	Utilities and Service Systems		Environmental Justice
X	Mandatory Findings of Significance				

Aesthetics – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would have an adverse impact on scenic vistas, degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings, or create any new sources of light or glare. It is anticipated that new non-potable water facilities and potable reuse facilities would generally integrate with the existing surroundings; however, in some instances their installation would potentially alter the visual character of the site and the need for mitigation such as visual screening or other measures will be considered.

Agricultural Resources – Although such impacts are not anticipated, the Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would impact farmland, conflict with zoning for agricultural use, forest or timberland, or Williamson Act contracts, or result in the loss of forest land.

Air Quality – The Proposed Project will be analyzed as compared to applicable air quality plans and its potential to violate air standards or contribute to existing violations, increase criteria pollutants, expose sensitive receptors, and generate odors. Potential air quality impacts from the proposed project would primarily relate to construction-related emissions and odors.

Biological Resources – The Proposed Project will be analyzed for its potential effects on sensitive or special status species, riparian habitat or natural communities identified by the

California Department of Fish and Wildlife or U.S. Fish and Wildlife, wetlands, or migration of species; and local policies and conservation plans protecting biological resources will be reviewed to determine if conflicts are present. If necessary, the need for mitigation measures to reduce impacts to protected species will be considered, such as focused monitoring surveys, restrictions on construction schedules during nesting seasons, and a tree inventory and protection measures.

Cultural Resources – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would have any substantial, adverse changes in the significance of historic or archaeological resources; directly or indirectly destroy a unique cultural resources feature; or disturb any human remains. If necessary, the need for mitigation measures will be considered, such as compliance with standards for rehabilitation, focused assessments, and monitoring and construction restrictions.

Geology and Soils – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would expose people or structures to substantial adverse effects through seismic movement, shaking, landslides, or liquefaction; result in substantial erosion, be located on an unstable or expansive soil, or have soils incapable of infiltration if required for wastewater disposal.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would result in an increase in greenhouse gas emissions compared to existing conditions or conflict with plans or policies adopted for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine impacts to the public or environment (including nearby schools) from the transport, use or encounter of hazardous substances; analysis of special safety hazards near airports or airstrip; review of potential interference with emergency response plans; and review of exposure to wildfires.

Hydrology and Water Quality – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would result in impacts to water quality, waste discharge requirements, water supplies, drainage patterns, and increased exposure to flood hazards and inundation.

Land Use and Planning – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would result in land use or planning impacts such as the physical division of an established community, or conflicting with applicable land use or conservation plans.

Mineral Resources – Although such impacts are not anticipated, the Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would result in the loss of mineral resources.

Noise – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would result in exposure of persons to excessive noise or ground vibrations, either temporary or overall increases in ambient noise levels. Potential noise and vibration impacts are anticipated due to construction activities and the need for mitigation including noise control measures and preconstruction noticing will be considered.

Population and Housing – Although such impacts are not anticipated, the Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would result in population growth inducement or displace housing or people.

Public Services – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would result in impacts to government facilities or otherwise impact public services such as fire or police protection, schools, parks, or other public facilities.

Recreation – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would increase the use of existing neighborhood or regional park facilities that would accelerate deterioration of the facility, or require construction of a facility that would adversely impact the environment. The Proposed Project is not anticipated to increase the demand for or require construction or expansion of recreational facilities; however, use of facilities may be temporarily disrupted due to construction activities.

Transportation/Traffic – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would cause an increase in traffic (temporary or long-term), result in a change in air traffic patterns, increase hazards due to a design feature, result in inadequate emergency access or parking capacity, or conflict with plans or policies supporting alternative transportation. Temporary impacts to transportation/traffic are anticipated due to construction activities and a contractor-led traffic management plan will be included as mitigation if necessary.

Utilities and Service Systems – The Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would exceed regulatory wastewater treatment requirements; require new or expanded wastewater or stormwater facilities; have sufficient water supply entitlements, sufficient treatment capacity, and disposal facilities; and comply with solid waste regulations.

Environmental Justice – Although such impacts are not anticipated, the Proposed Project will be analyzed to determine if it would disproportionately impact minority or low-income populations.

Mandatory Findings of Significance – The Proposed Project will be analyzed in the appropriate sections, above, to determine if it would degrade the quality of the environment including species reduction or adverse effects on human beings, or have impacts that are cumulatively considerable in combination with other projects (current or future). The need to implement mitigation measures to address such impacts will be considered as part of the analysis.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY: The Notice of Preparation can be viewed on Olivenhain MWD's website at: <https://www.olivenhain.com/about-us/projects-and-facilities>

This NOP is also available for review during regular business hours at Olivenhain MWD's offices located at 1966 Olivenhain Road, Encinitas, CA 92024. If you require additional information please contact Kimberly Thorner at (760) 753-6466.



