



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

Home of The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

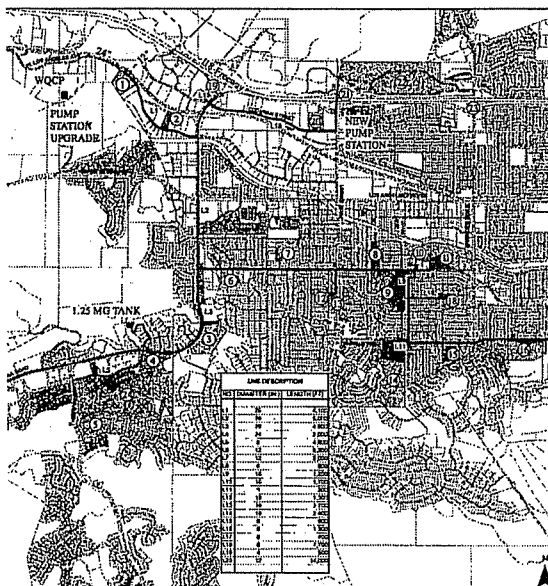
NOTICE OF THE RELEASE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW BY THE CITY OF SIMI VALLEY OF A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE WEST SIMI WATER RECYCLING PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the release for public review of and the intent to approve by the City of Simi Valley of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the West Simi Water Recycling Project.

The West Simi Water Recycling Project would upgrade and expand the existing Ventura County Waterworks District No. 8 recycled water distribution system in the western area of Simi Valley. The expansion would potentially supply 1,170 acre-feet per year (AFY) of recycled water for irrigation of turf areas or other non-potable water usage. The project includes placing recycled water pipeline in public rights-of-way and construction of a recycled water storage tank.

The project is located within properties owned by the City of Simi Valley or the District (the Water Quality Control Plant property and an existing graded water tank site, respectively) and within public streets and rights-of-way including West Los Angeles Avenue, West Easy Street, Madera Road, Olsen Road, Royal Avenue, Cochran Street, First Street, Fitzgerald Road, Country Club Drive, and Westbranch Lane.

Based upon the results of the Initial Study prepared for the project, it has been determined that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. Therefore, a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared. The public review period for the Mitigated Negative Declaration is from March 30, 2011 through April 28, 2011. Copies of the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study are available for public review at the Department of Environmental Services, 3855-A Alamo Street, and at the Public Library, 2969 Tapo Canyon Road. Copies of the studies cited in the Initial Study can be reviewed at the Department of Environmental Services, 3855-A Alamo Street. Comments or questions should be directed to Cynthia Sabatini, Department of Environmental Services, 2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, CA 93063-2100, or at (805) 583-6776.

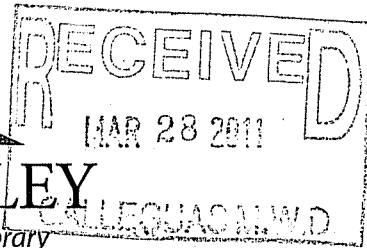


No Public Hearing has been set at this time.

PAUL DRURY
Deputy Director/City Planner

Cynthia Sabatini
Associate Planner (805) 583-6776
Department of Environmental Services

Legal Ad #15-11 P.O. #4800002252
Non-Billable #ES99-NB.PWPRO.LEGAL
SV Acct. No. 5014



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY
Home of The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

REVIEW PERIOD: March 30, 2011 through April 28, 2011

TO: All Interested Parties

FROM: Department of Environmental Services

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF THE INITIAL STUDY AND MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE WEST SIMI WATER RECYCLING PROJECT: TO INSTALL DISTRIBUTION PIPELINES AND STORAGE FOR RECYCLED WATER FROM THE SIMI VALLEY WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLANT, INCLUDING MINOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS ON WEST LOS ANGELES AVENUE

The attached Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study have been forwarded to you for possible comments relating to your specific area of interest. Comments should be directed to:

Lauren Funaiole
 City of Simi Valley
 2929 Tapo Canyon Road
 Simi Valley, CA 93063-2100
 (805) 583-6772

Copies sent to:

City Council (5)
 City Manager
 City Attorney's Office
 Planning Commission (5)
 City Departments:

City Manager's Office
 Assistant City Clerk
Environmental Services
 Director
 Deputy Director/City Planner
 Environmental Planner, L. Funaiole
 Recording Secretary
 Counter Copy
Community Services
 Neighborhood Council Coordinator
 Neighborhood Council 1
 Transit Administrator
Public Works Department
 Engineering (3)
 Case Engineer, E. Wong
 Utilities
 Maintenance

County of Ventura
 Resource Mgmt. Agency (4)
 Public Library
 -- Simi Branch (2)

Other Government Agencies
 State Clearinghouse (15)
 City of Thousand Oaks
 Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
 Regional Water Quality Control Board
 California Department of Public Health
 State Water Resources Control Board
 Metropolitan Water District
 Calleguas Municipal Water District
 Environmental Coalition

- BR-3** The District must prepare a final project evaluation, conducted by a qualified biologist, in the third and final year of data collection, as described in the monitoring plan that is part of the project application. The evaluation must include an analysis of flow data to determine whether reduction in flow is measurable downstream, an analysis of all photographs to determine whether there is a significant change in vegetation structure downstream, and a comparison of aerial imagery to assess any changes in vegetative cover.
- BR-4** At the conclusion of the study period, the District must submit a report of the final project evaluation, prepared by a qualified biologist and ready for submittal to applicable regulatory agencies, which must provide a detailed description of the methods, results and discussion of the findings, with recommendations for future monitoring actions related to the project.
- BR-5** During the February 1 to August 1 nesting season of birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the District must complete a pre-construction survey for nesting birds, to be conducted by a qualified biologist with at least two years of experience carrying out field surveys for breeding and nesting birds in Southern California. The District must schedule construction activity so that no more than seven days elapse between the pre-construction survey and the commencement of any construction activity that would potentially trim or remove trees. The pre-construction survey must determine if birds are breeding and/or nesting in the construction zone or within 100 feet (300 feet for raptors) of the construction zone. The District must submit the results of this survey and any subsequent surveys to the Deputy Director/City Planner within five days of survey completion and prior to the start of construction in the area of the survey. If construction is delayed for more than 14 days past the date of the first pre-construction survey, then additional pre-construction surveys must be conducted so that no more than seven days elapse between the survey and construction activity. If active nests are found, the District must erect a fence barrier around the nest site as determined by the biologist. The District must prohibit construction activities within the fence barrier around the nest zone until the qualified biologist clears the nest zone. The District must monitor construction activities that occur near active nest areas to ensure that no inadvertent adverse impacts affect the nest. The District must provide the consultant contract for the pre-construction survey and monitoring to the Deputy Director/City Planner for review and approval prior to start of construction.
- CR-1** A cultural resources and paleontological discovery plan (Discovery Plan) shall be prepared and implemented by the District prior to the start of construction. The Discovery Plan must consist of the following components:
- The District must ensure that the Discovery Plan and training program shall be implemented prior to the start of construction. The Discovery Plan must outline procedures for identification and treatment of either cultural resources or paleontological resources found along the routes during construction.
 - The District's training program must be prepared by a trained archaeologist and paleontologist and presented to all construction personnel. The emphasis of the training is to educate all construction personnel on the potential archaeological and paleontological resources that could be found on the

project during excavation and the proper procedures for dealing with resources if encountered.

- Should resources be identified during construction, the District must cease work in the immediate area (within 100 feet) and notify a qualified archaeologist to determine if the resource is significant. Work must not continue until the qualified archaeologist makes a determination.
- If a significant resource is encountered, the District must follow steps outlined in the Discovery Plan before construction can continue. The Discovery Plan procedures must include the following steps:
 1. Any recovered cultural resources must be identified, sites recorded and mapped, and artifacts catalogued as required by standard professional archaeological practices. Examination by an archaeological specialist must be included where necessary to identify date and/or determine significance potential.
 2. If the archaeological specialist discovers cultural deposits, trench excavations must be diverted temporarily around the deposits until the deposits have been evaluated, recorded, excavated and/or recovered, as necessary by the archaeologist. After the archaeologist determines the artifacts are recovered and/or the site has been mitigated to the extent necessary, trenching may resume.
 3. If it is determined by the archaeologist that a significance determination is required for the encountered cultural site, the site must be evaluated and recorded in accordance with requirements of the State Office of Historic Preservation (for example, Phase 2 testing and creation of a DPR 523 form for each site). In this case, if the State determines the site is not significant, no measures subsequent to recording the site on appropriate forms are required.
 4. If any of the sites are determined to be significant, the archaeologist must collect an adequate amount of artifacts at the specific archaeological site. The archaeologist must determine the amount of artifacts needed to be collected.

CR-2 The Discovery Plan shall be prepared and implemented as described in CR-1 prior to the start of construction. The District must follow the steps in the Discovery Plan as outlined below:

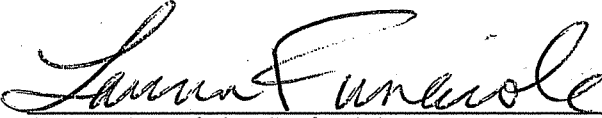
- If it is determined by the paleontologist that suitable intact soils are present along portions of the route with a high potential for buried paleontological resources, a qualified paleontologist must be present to monitor excavation activities in those specific areas. If significant resources are encountered, the procedures outlined in the Discovery Plan must be followed, before construction can continue.
- Paleontologic monitors (if required) must be equipped to salvage fossils as they are unearthed, to avoid construction delays and to remove samples of sediments likely to contain the remains of small fossil invertebrates and vertebrates. Monitors must be empowered to temporarily halt or divert equipment to allow removal of abundant or large specimens. Monitoring may be reduced or eliminated at the discretion of the qualified paleontologist. If the monitoring program results in positive findings, then Mitigation Measures CR-2.1 through 2.4 must be implemented by the District.
 1. Preparation of recovered specimens to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates.

2. Preparation and stabilization of all recovered fossils are essential in order to fully mitigate adverse impacts to the resources.
3. Identification and curation of specimens into an established accredited museum repository with permanent retrievable paleontologic storage.
4. Preparation of a report of findings with an appended itemized inventory of specimens.

RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Reclamation Requirements [WRR])
California Department of Public Health (Engineering Report and Conditions for the WRR)
City of Thousand Oaks (encroachment permits, agreement)
Calleguas Municipal Water District (agreement)
State Water Resources Control Board (grants and loans)
Metropolitan Water District (grants)

TRUSTEE AGENCIES: California Department of Fish and Game (monitoring)


Lauren Funaiole, Senior Planner

**CITY OF SIMI VALLEY
PLANNING DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
INITIAL STUDY**

1. Project Title: West Simi Water Recycling Project (WSWRP)
2. Lead Agency Name and Address: City of Simi Valley/Ventura County Waterworks District #8
3. Contact Person and Phone Number: Ernest Wong (805) 583-6896
4. Project Location: The project facilities will be located within properties owned by the City of Simi Valley or the Water Works District #8 and within public streets and rights-of-way including West Los Angeles Avenue, West Easy Street, Madera Road, Olsen Road, Royal Avenue, Cochran Street, First Street, Fitzgerald Road, Country Club Drive, and Westranch Lane.
5. Project Sponsor's Name and Address: Ventura County Waterworks District No. 8
2929 Tapo Canyon Rd
Simi Valley, CA 93063
6. General Plan Designations: Public Services Center (Water Treatment Plant); Low Density (residential) at the water tank site; various public streets; and various General Plan designations for each potential customer.
7. Zoning: GI (General Industrial) at the Water Treatment Plant; RL(CZ) (Residential Low density) at the water tank location; various public streets; and various zoning designations for each potential customer.
8. Description of Project:

The West Simi Water Recycling Project (WSWRP) would upgrade and expand the existing recycled water distribution system operated by the Ventura County Waterworks District No. 8 (District) in the western area of Simi Valley to supply up to 1,170 acre-feet per year (AFY) of recycled water to customers that have large demand for turf area irrigation or other non-potable water usage. The project includes improvements to the existing recycled water pump station, placing approximately 64,320 feet of recycled water pipeline in public rights-of-way, construction of a recycled water storage tank at a site that was graded to accommodate a water tank, and placement of a small hydropneumatic pump station. Currently, the Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant (SVWQCP) discharges an average of 10,600 AFY of tertiary-treated effluent into the Arroyo Simi. The WSWRP would make use of a percentage of this local water resource to increase the reliability of the potable water supply for all District customers by reducing dependence on imported water supplies from the State Water Project for non-potable uses. The WSWRP is based on a study of alternatives in the District's 2008 Recycled Water Master Plan Update. The WSWRP will consist of the following primary facilities as shown on the location map below:

- Upgrade of the existing pump station located at the SVWQCP by adding pump units (1,600 gallons per minute, each) to increase its capacity;
- Construction of a recycled water storage tank (1.25 million gallons) on the District-owned Lower McCoy Tank site located at the northern end of Westranch Lane;

- Roadway improvements, including widening and sidewalk construction, will occur during recycled water pipeline installation along West Los Angeles Avenue;
- Placement of a small pump station on right-of-way north of the intersection of First and Cochran Streets;
- Pipeline (approximately 64,320 feet in length), to be constructed within West Los Angeles Avenue, West Easy Street, Madera Road, Olsen Road, Royal Avenue, Cochran Street, Fitzgerald Road, Country Club Drive, and Westranch Lane, connecting the upgraded SVWQCP Pump Station, the proposed recycled water storage tank, and the potential recycled water customers along the pipeline route, including the Sinaloa Golf Course, golf courses in Wood Ranch and Thousand Oaks, the public cemetery, several local parks and school playing fields, up to three City-maintained freeway interchange areas, and the Simi Valley Town Center mall; and,
- All customers receiving recycled water will have their on-site water facilities modified to separate potable and non-potable (for recycled water) systems and to meet all applicable requirements by the California Department of Public Health.

The upgraded pump station will operate in conjunction with the recycled water storage tank to deliver tertiary-treated effluent from the SVWQCP to the recycled water customers for turf irrigation and non-potable water use. The storage tank will regulate the recycled water pressure received by the customers and will control the pump unit operation to maintain a desired water level range within the tank. To maintain reliability for customers, a back-up supply is planned that will supply potable water into the tank from a pipe inlet to be located above the high-water level of the tank, maintaining the required an air-gap separation. The hydropneumatic pump station will pump recycled water for use by the Simi Valley Town Center and other higher elevation recycled water customers.

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Setting:

The project facilities will be located within properties owned by the City of Simi Valley or the District (the SVWQCP and a graded water tank site) and within public streets such as West Los Angeles Avenue, West Easy Street, Madera Road, Royal Avenue, Cochran Street, Fitzgerald Road, Country Club Drive, and Westranch Lane as shown in the location map and aerial photograph below. Land uses surrounding the project areas include: contractor storage and light industrial facilities near the SVWQCP, and light industrial buildings adjacent to West Los Angeles Avenue and West Easy Street. The new line would be placed in rights-of way that are adjacent to various residential, commercial and institutional uses.

10. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement).

- California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Reclamation Requirements [WRR])
- California Department of Public Health (Engineering Report and Conditions for the WRR)
- Calleguas Municipal Water District (agreement)
- State Water Resources Control Board (grants and loans)
- Metropolitan Water District (grants)

11. Date Deemed Complete/Ready to Process: Not Applicable

Document continues for another 27 pages. The complete document is available at the Las Posas Users Group website, <http://www.calleguas.com/LPB/LPBMP.htm>, under the "Library" webpage.