

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

**DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

## **DDSD Recycled Water System Expansion Project**

FONSI 13-\_\_-MP

Recommended: \_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Kleinsmith  
Natural Resources Specialist  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Concurrence: \_\_\_\_\_  
David T. White  
Manager, Title XVI Program  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle H. Denning  
Chief, Division of Planning  
Mid-Pacific Regional Office

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Mid-Pacific Region  
Sacramento, California

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## **BACKGROUND**

The Bureau of Reclamation proposes to provide partial funding to the Delta Diablo Sanitation District (DDSD) for planning the Near Term Project of the DDSD Recycled Water System Expansion Project (Proposed Action). DDSD proposes to install new pipelines, rehabilitate existing pipelines, construct a new storage tank and conduct other improvements at the existing Recycled Water Facility in northern Contra Costa County to meet the demands of existing and potential new customers. The Proposed Action will reduce dependence on Delta supplies, improve water supply reliability, preserve potable water supplies, and better utilize existing recycled water facilities.

## **PROPOSED ACTION**

The Proposed Action will consist of the following components:

- 6,600 linear feet (LF) of new recycled water pipeline;
- 0.9 million gallon storage tank
- Tank flow control valve, tank pad, and other tank-related appurtenances;
- Testing and rehabilitation of 3,090 linear feet of parallel 8-inch existing pipelines;
- 15 new customer meters; and
- Isolation valves.

Reclamation has provided partial funding for planning the near-term component through Section 1604 of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act of 1992 (Title XVI of Public Law 102-575, as amended). Section 1604 authorizes federal cost-sharing in water reuse projects up to 50 percent of the total eligible pre-construction planning costs. If the Proposed Project is authorized for construction, Reclamation may provide a portion of the funds to design and construct the Proposed Project. Reclamation, which has discretionary approval over the provision of this funding, is the lead Federal agency for complying with the National Environmental Policy Act.

Reclamation and the Town prepared a draft Initial Study/ Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) in June 2013 to evaluate the effects of the Proposed Action.

## **FINDINGS**

Based on the attached IS/EA, Reclamation finds that funding the Proposed Action is not a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment. The attached IS/EA describes the existing environmental resources in the Proposed Action area and evaluates the effects of the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives on the resources. The IS/EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508), and Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR Part 46). This analysis is provided in the attached IS/EA, and the analysis in the IS/EA is hereby incorporated by reference.

Following are the reasons why the impacts of the Proposed Action are not significant:

1. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect air quality or greenhouse gas emissions. Construction will be limited in duration and scale, the proposed work will be distributed in a manner that reduces substantial queuing or congregation of diesel-powered vehicles, and standard dust control measures will be implemented.
2. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect biological resources. Potential construction-related impacts to California tiger salamander, California red-legged frogs and giant garter snake, wetlands and waters of the United States will be avoided, minimized, or mitigated by implementing the mitigation measures discussed in the IS/EA. On March 28, 2013, Reclamation requested concurrence from the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the California tiger salamander, the California red-legged frog, and the giant garter snake. On May 16, 2013, the FWS concurred with Reclamation's determination.
3. A cultural resource inventory of the proposed Project/Action area was conducted. This inventory does not include elements that provide a full evaluation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The full Section 106 compliance is anticipated during the design phase. Once complete, the cultural resources report will be submitted to Reclamation for initiation of the consultation process with State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Completion of the cultural resources report and concurrence by SHPO will ensure compliance with the NHPA.
4. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect hydrology or water quality. The construction contractor for the Proposed Action will prepare and implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan to protect water quality during construction, in accordance with Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association.
5. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect noise levels. Mitigation measures discussed in the IS/EA will reduce construction-related noise effects to sensitive receptors by requiring the implementation of noise-reducing and vibration control construction practices and limiting construction work hours.
6. The Proposed Action will not significantly affect transportation and traffic. DDS will prepare and implement a traffic control plan. DDS will coordinate with the Parkside Elementary School officials regarding the timing of construction at the school to minimize the impacts of the potential loss of 28 parking spaces during construction.
7. The Proposed Action will not increase growth or demand on public services or utilities. The Proposed Action will be constructed to correct existing deficiencies and to optimize the existing recycled water system. It does not propose new homes or businesses. As such, it will not induce directly or indirectly any population growth in an area.
8. The Proposed Action will not disproportionately impact minority or low-income populations or communities.
9. The Proposed Action will not affect Indian Trust Assets (ITA). The nearest ITA is Lytton Rancheria approximately 23 miles west southwest of the project location.

10. The Proposed Action will not affect Indian Sacred Sites.
11. The Proposed Action will not result in adverse cumulative effects.
12. There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial.