

RECLAMATION

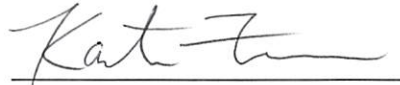
Managing Water in the West

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Tulare Irrigation District SCADA Modernization Project

FONSI 18-10-MP

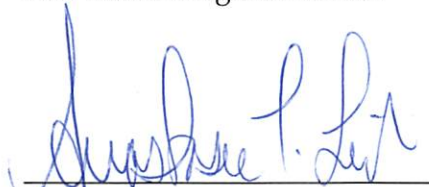
Recommended by:



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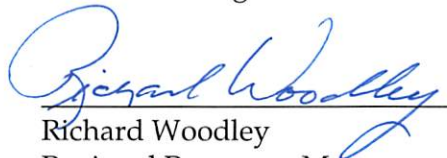
Date: 04/30/2018

Approved by:



Anastasia T. Leigh
Regional Environmental Officer
Mid-Pacific Region

Date: 05/01/2018



Richard Woodley
Regional Resources Management Division Chief
Mid-Pacific Region

Date: 5/2/18



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

That analysis is provided in the attached EA, and the analysis in the 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 public health or safety (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(2)).
2. The proposed action will not significantly impact natural resources and unique geographical characteristics such as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation, and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order (EO) 11990); flood plains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(3) and 43 CFR 46.215(b)).
3. The proposed action will not have possible effects on the human environment that are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(5)).
4. The proposed action will neither establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects nor represent a decision in principle about a future consideration (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(6)).
5. There is no potential for the effects to be considered highly controversial (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(4)).
6. The proposed action will not have significant cumulative impacts (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(7)).
7. The proposed action has no potential to affect historic properties (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(8)).
8. The proposed action will not negatively affect listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(9)).
9. The proposed action will not violate federal, state, tribal or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment (40 CFR 1508.27(b)(10)).
10. The proposed action will not affect any Indian Trust Assets (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993).
11. Implementing the proposed action will not disproportionately affect minorities or low-income populations and communities (EO 12898).
12. The proposed action will not limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007 and 512 DM 3).

Background

In accordance with section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the Bureau of Reclamation prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Tulare Irrigation District, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System Modernization Project, dated March 2018. The EA was prepared to examine the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects associated with providing a WaterSMART Small-scale Water Efficiency Grant to the Tulare Irrigation District (District). The grant funding would be used to financially assist the District with the migration of software from 16 of the District's existing Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) computer stations to the District mainframe server, located in the District Administration Office within the District service area boundary (Project).

The purpose of the project is to automate both data acquisition and controls to allow a much greater level of control of power and water efficiency in the operation of the District pumps and water delivery infrastructure than presently exists. Implementation of this project would enhance control of water deliveries to decrease any excess and unnecessary water diversion and deliver only water that is needed.

Alternatives Including the Proposed Action

No Action: Reclamation would not award the District with a grant. The District would continue to operate and maintain their distribution system under existing conditions.

Proposed Action: Reclamation will provide a grant to fund a portion of the District Project. Funds awarded through this grant combined with District funds will allow the District to upgrade its SCADA interface software from an older interface platform (Lookout) to a modern system called the Ignition platform. Funds will also be used to implement new control and monitoring components beyond the existing system and include remote hand-held SCADA monitoring tablets.

Findings

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



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