

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Making Conservation
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APR 18 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

April 10, 2019

Ms. Julia Aranda, PE
Casitas Municipal Water District
1055 Ventura Avenue
Oak View, CA 93022

RE: Ojai Water System Improvement Project –
Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)
SCH# 2019039083
GTS # 07-VEN-2019-00252
Vic. LA-150/PM: 16.982

Dear Ms. Julia Aranda:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the above referenced project's MND. The proposed project would replace approximately eight miles of pipeline segments throughout the Ojai system service area. Project implementation would occur over approximately ten years, with the first phase of project construction in the first three years and the second phase of construction in the subsequent seven years. The pipelines identified in the CMA and WMP represent the initial scope of pipeline replacements. Over the course of project implementation, more pipelines may be identified as having multiple leaks or breaks, or for which replacement makes sense because they are close to other planned replacements. This work will be performed at the discretion of CMWD. The details of additional pipeline improvements are unknown; thus pipeline or other water system improvements not described in this document will require separate environmental review under CEQA. The proposed project includes plans to rehabilitate two tanks, demolish three existing tanks, and construct up to one new tank; rehabilitate one booster pump station, upgrade an additional pump station, demolish and construct two new pump stations, and abandon one pump station; and rehabilitate or replace six active wells in the Ojai system. The proposed project also includes potential construction of a new well in the Ojai system.

After reviewing this project's MND Caltrans has the following comments:

- 1) Due to the sensitivity of wildfires in the Ojai area Caltrans suggests the project please ensure that implementation/construction will not impede emergency evacuation availability. Please consider taking steps to ensure that evacuation roadways are free of any debris/project equipment and are accessible to the public and emergency vehicles at all times.
- 2) Any transportation of heavy construction equipment and/or materials which requires use of oversized-transport vehicles on State highways will need a Caltrans transportation permit. We recommend large size truck trips be limited to off-peak commute periods
- 3) An encroachment permit will be required for any project on, under or in the vicinity of, the Caltrans right of way. Please note that any modifications to the State facility (SR-150 or SR-33) will be subject to additional review by the Office of Permits prior to issuance of the permit

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If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact project coordinator Reece Allen, at reece.allen@dot.ca.gov and refer to GTS# 07-VEN-2019-00252.

Sincerely,



MIYA EDMONSON
IGR/CEQA Branch Chief

cc: Scott Morgan, State Clearinghouse