Notice of Decision

TO:

Wade Crowfoot

Secretary of Resources Natural Resources Agency 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, California 95814

FROM:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region

320 West Fourth Street, Suite 200

Los Angeles, CA 90013

SUBJECT:

Filing of Notice of Decision in compliance with section 21080.5 of the

Public Resources Code

PROJECT TITLE:

Incorporation of Stakeholder-Developed Groundwater Quality

Management Measures for Salts and Nutrients in the Raymond Basin of

Los Angeles County

LOCATION:

Los Angeles Region (coastal watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura

Counties)

DESCRIPTION:

Amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles*Region to incorporate Groundwater Quality Management Measures for Salts and Nutrients in the Raymond Basin of Los Angeles County

(Resolution No. R16-011).

CONTACT PERSON: Dr. Ginachi Amah, (213) 576-6685

This Notice of Decision is to advise you that the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) has determined that the above-referenced project has been approved. On December 8, 2016, the Regional Board adopted an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan) to incorporate stakeholder-developed groundwater quality management measures for salts and nutrients in the Raymond Basin of Los Angeles County (see attached Resolution No. R16-011). The Basin Plan amendment was subsequently approved by the State Water Resources Control Board on May 16, 2017 (SWRCB Resolution No. 2017-0029), and the Office of Administrative Law on December 13, 2018 (OAL File No. 2018-1030-03).

The Los Angeles Water Board has made the following determinations regarding the above-described project:

- 1. The groundwater quality management measures will have a less than significant effect on the environment with mitigation incorporated.
- 2. Substitute environmental documents (SED) were prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. The substitute documents include the Basin Plan Amendment, the Staff Memo, and Substitute Environmental Document.
- 3. Mitigation measures were analyzed in compliance with Public Resources Code section 21159.
- 4. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

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Notice of Decision

This is to certify that the final environmental document and record of project approval, is available to the general public at the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region's office, 320 West Fourth Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013 or via Regional Board website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/salt_and_nutrient_managem_ent/index.shtml

Renée A. Purdy Executive Officer

Governor's Office of Plenning & Research

MAY 09 2013

STATECLEARINGHOUSE

Date received for filing:

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 09 2019

STATECLEARINGHOUSE





Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

TO:

Wade Crowfoot

Secretary of Natural Resources Natural Resources Agency 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento. California 95814

Sovemor's Office of Plenning & Research

MAY 09 2019

STATECLEARINGHOUSE

FROM:

Renee A. Purdy

Executive Officer

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

DATE:

May 6, 2019

SUBJECT:

TRANSMITTAL OF NOTICE OF DECISION FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LOS ANGELES REGION TO INCORPORATE GROUNDWATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR SALTS AND NUTRIENTS IN THE RAYMOND BASIN OF LOS ANGELES

COUNTY

On December 8, 2016, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) adopted Resolution No. R16-011 amending the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to incorporate stakeholder-developed groundwater quality management measures for salts and nutrients in Raymond Basin of Los Angeles County. The Basin Plan amendment was approved by the State Water Resources Control Board on May 16, 2017 (Resolution No. 2017-0029) and the Office of Administrative Law on December 13, 2018 (OAL File No. 2018-1030-03).

The Water Quality Control Planning Program of the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards is a "certified regulatory program" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as provided in section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code. A Basin Plan amendment approved under a certified regulatory program is not final until the State Water Board files, with the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, a Notice of Decision and either the Department of Fish and Wildlife's written "No Effect" Determination or a copy of its Environmental Filing Fee Cash Receipt.

Attached are two copies of the Notice of Decision and Department of Fish and Wildlife's Environmental Filing Fee Cash Receipt for the Basin Plan amendment adopted by the Los Angeles Water Board. Also attached are Los Angeles Water Board Resolution No. R16-011, the Environmental Checklist, and State Water Board Resolution No. 2017-0030. Finally, included is a self-addressed and stamped envelope. Please send back one copy of the Notice of Decision as a notification that the item has been posted and filed.

Should you have any questions regarding this Basin Plan amendment, please contact Dr. Ginachi Amah at 213 576-6685 or Ginachi.Amah@waterboards.ca.gov.

Attachments:

Notice of Decision (2 copies)
DFW Environmental Filing Fee Cash Receipt
Los Angeles Water Board Resolution No. R16-011
State Water Board Resolution No. 2017-0029
Environmental Checklist
Self-addressed and stamped Envelope

Cc (with attachments):

State Clearinghouse (P.O. Box 3044, Sacramento, CA 95812-3044)

Cc (without attachments):

Karen Mogus, DWQ, Deputy Director, State Water Resources Control Board
Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director, State Water Resources Control Board
Rebecca Fitzgerald, DWQ, Chief, Water Quality Standards and Assessment, State Water
Resources Control Board
Zane Poulson, DWQ, Chief of Inland Planning Standards and Implementation Unit, State Water
Resources Control Board
David Coupe, OCC, Attorney IV, State Water Resources Control Board

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Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 09 2019

STATECLEARINGHOUSE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE **ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT** DFG 753.5a (01/2002)

Receipt No: 4091

Date: 4/8/2019

Invoice Date:

Lead Agency:

State Water Resources Control Board

State Agency of Filing:

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Document No: 420-1700586

Project Title:

Inc of Groundwater Quality Managemen

Deposit No:

2379001037

State Water Resources Control Board

P O Box 100

Sacramento, CA 95812

Project Applicant Name

Project Applicant Address:

City, State, Zip

Project Applicant (check appropriate box)-ocal Public Agency

School District

Other Special District

State Agency

Private Entity

APPLICABLE FEES:

Environmental Impact Report:

\$0.00

Negative Declaration:

\$0.00

Application Fee Water Diversion (State Water Resources Control Board Only):

\$0.00

Projects Subject to Certified Regulatory Programs

\$1,112.00

Lien fee:

\$0.00 \$0.00

Penalty:

County Administrative Fee: Project exempt from fees

\$0.00 \$0.00

Total Received

\$1,112.00

Person receiving payment:

Valeriya Kryuchkov, Accounting Officer

2 copies - Project Applicant, DFG/ASB

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

MAY 09 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD LOS ANGELES REGION

Resolution No. R16-011

Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region to Incorporate Stakeholder-Developed Groundwater Quality Management Measures for Salts and Nutrients in the Raymond Basin

December 8, 2016

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Water Board) finds that:

- 1. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted the Policy for Water Quality Control for Recycled Water (Recycled Water Policy or Policy) (State Water Board Resolution No. 2009-0011) in February 2009, which was amended in January 2013 (State Water Board Resolution No. 2013-0003). The goal of this Policy is to increase the use of recycled water from municipal wastewater sources that meet the definition in Water Code section 13050(n) in a manner that implements State and federal water quality laws.
- 2. The Recycled Water Policy is intended to support the State Water Board's priorities in the 2008-2012 Strategic Plan to promote sustainable water supplies. Increasing the acceptance and promoting the use of recycled water is a means toward achieving sustainable water supplies and can result in the reduction of greenhouse gases, a significant driver of climate change. The Policy is also intended to encourage beneficial use of recycled water, rather than solely discharging it to receiving waters.
- 3. In developing the Policy, the State Water Board recognized that increased use of recycled water, in conjunction with other applications/discharges, may result in salt and nutrient loads to groundwater basins that could result in exceedances of groundwater quality objectives. Therefore, the Policy contains a requirement that salts and nutrients from all sources be managed on a basin-wide scale or watershed scale through the development of Salt and Nutrient Management Plans (SNMPs).
- 4. Per the Recycled Water Policy, SNMPs must be developed for every groundwater basin/sub-basin in California. The plans should identify water quality concerns in each basin/sub-basin and identify management strategies for all sources of salts and nutrients to groundwater basins, including recycled water irrigation projects and groundwater recharge projects that will be implemented.
- 5. The SNMPs are to be developed by local water and wastewater entities, together with local salt/nutrient contributing stakeholders through a collaborative process open to all interested persons. The SNMPs are to be completed and proposed to the Regional Water Boards no more than seven years of the effective date of the Policy (or by May 14, 2016). The Policy also directs the Regional Water Board to consider incorporating the implementation programs contained in these SNMPs into its water quality control plan within one year of their submission to the Regional Water Board.

- 6. The SNMPs are required to contain: (i) water recycling and stormwater recharge goals and objectives, (ii) salt and nutrient source identification, (iii) implementation measures to manage salt and nutrient loading in the basin on a sustainable basis, (iv) an anti-degradation analysis demonstrating that the projects included within the plan will collectively satisfy the requirement of State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 ("Statement of Policy With Respect to Maintaining the High Quality of Waters in California", the State's anti-degradation policy), (v) a basin/sub-basin wide monitoring plan that includes the appropriate network of monitoring locations, and (vi) a provision for annual monitoring of Constituents of Emerging Concern.
- 7. For purposes of regulation by the Regional Water Board pursuant to its authority under the California Water Code, the groundwater basins in the Los Angeles Region are identified in Chapter 2 of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan). Chapter 2 of the Basin Plan also sets forth the beneficial uses of these groundwater basins (primarily municipal and domestic supply (MUN) and agricultural supply (AGR), but also industrial process supply (PROC) and industrial service supply (IND)). Water quality objectives to protect these uses and to prevent degradation of existing water quality are set forth in Chapter 3 of the Basin Plan. Programs of implementation to attain the water quality objectives are set forth in Chapter 4 of the Basin Plan.
- 8. In November 2010, consistent with a State Water Board directive to Regional Water Boards to initiate and facilitate the SNMP development process, Regional Water Board staff conducted the first region-wide stakeholder SNMP workshop. At this workshop, stakeholders were provided with information regarding the SNMP requirements of the Recycled Water Policy, and had the opportunity for discourse with different groundwater basin stakeholder groups. Regional Board staff has continued to hold annual region-wide stakeholder SNMP workshops since then.
- 9. Stakeholders and interested persons for the Raymond Basin collaborated to develop the SNMP for their basin. Planning efforts were led by the Raymond Basin Management Board working in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Groundwater producers in the Basin were also kept abreast of the SNMP development process. Regional Water Board staff has actively participated in the Raymond Basin's SNMP development process.
- 10. The Raymond Groundwater Basin underlies the north westerly portion of the San Gabriel Valley in Los Angeles County. It is bounded on the north by the San Gabriel Mountains, on the west by the San Rafael Hills and on the southeast by the Raymond Fault which separates the basin from the Main San Gabriel Basin which is down-gradient. Raymond Basin has a surface area of approximately 40.9 square miles and consists of three subunits: (i) the Monk Hill Subarea which underlies the City of La Canada Flintridge and the northwestern portion of the City of Pasadena, (ii) the Pasadena Subarea which underlies most of the City of Pasadena and the unincorporated county area of Altadena, and (iii) the Santa Anita Subarea which underlies the Cities of Arcadia and Sierra Madre. The land area overlying the Raymond Basin is largely urbanized with little agricultural lands.
- 11. The Raymond Basin provides about fifty percent of the potable water demands for water suppliers in the basin, and is actively managed by the Raymond Basin Management Board (Management Board) which consists of ten representatives appointed by water

- purveyors within the Basin. The Management Board is charged with the powers and responsibilities of managing the Raymond Basin and protecting the long-term quantity and quality of the groundwater supply.
- 12. Natural recharge to the basin consists of direct rainfall, percolation of streamflow from the northern and western sides, underflow from the Verdugo Basin and mountain front recharge. Artificial recharge of the Raymond Basin occurs via infiltration of stormwater runoff in all three subareas and, to a lesser degree, injection of treated imported water in the Monk Hill and Pasadena subareas.
- 13. On average, groundwater quality in each subarea is currently below Basin Plan objectives for TDS, chlorides, sulfates, and nitrate, and assimilative capacity is available for all constituents. However, review of available data suggests an increasing trend for TDS, chloride and sulfate concentrations in the Monk Hill and Pasadena subareas. Also, there is considerable annual variation in water quality for each constituent. Generally, water quality concentrations vary with many environmental factors, including the volume of groundwater in storage. The water quality concentrations in the Raymond Basin appear to be inversely related to groundwater in storage, increasing as groundwater levels decrease, and vice versa.
- 14. Existing salt and nutrient management measures in the Raymond Basin include actions/programs that are intended to sustain groundwater recharge, monitor water quality conditions, and control salinity in waters imported into the basin. Potential management measures include increasing groundwater recharge and promoting onsite stormwater capture and retention.
- 15. Raymond Basin stakeholders have prepared a detailed technical planning document containing all the elements outlined by the Recycled Water Policy. The document titled "Raymond Basin Salt and Nutrient Management Plan" is an integral part of this Regional Water Board action and was reviewed, considered and accepted by the Regional Water Board before acting. Further, this technical document provides the detailed factual basis and analysis supporting the assessment of current water quality conditions, the identification of salt and nutrient management measures, and the projected water quality impacts for this groundwater quality management tool.
- 16. The public has had reasonable opportunity to participate in the review of the amendments to the Basin Plan. A Notice of Hearing was published in the Los Angeles Times on September 30, 2016, and circulated for 45 days preceding the Regional Water Board's proposed action. Drafts of the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, Substitute Environmental Document, proposed Basin Plan amendment language, and staff memorandum were released for public comment on September 30, 2016 to allow a 45-day public comment period in advance of the public hearing. The Regional Water Board responded to written and oral comments received from the public on the proposed action. On December 8, 2016, the Regional Water Board held a public hearing to consider incorporation of salt and nutrient management measures for the Raymond Basin into the Basin Plan. The public had an opportunity to provide oral comments and testimony during the hearing.
- 17. The salt and nutrient management strategies developed by the Raymond Basin stakeholders are measures designed to provide a framework for the long-term management of salts and nutrients in the Raymond Basin, while encouraging and

allowing for increased use of recycled water areas. Use of an assimilative capacity assessment tool developed during the process demonstrated that recycled water projects may be developed and applied within the basin while still maintaining groundwater quality that is supportive of beneficial uses. Given these considerations, the amendment is consistent with State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 ("Statement of Policy With Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California"), and is also consistent with the policy of the State established in California Water Code section 106.3 that everyone has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water.

- 18. This Basin Plan amendment meets the "necessity" standard of the California Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code section 11353(b), because the Recycled Water Policy requires that Regional Water Boards incorporate salt and nutrient management measures for groundwater basins into their respective basin plans within one year of the receipt of stakeholder developed salt and nutrient management plans. Also, Water Code section 13240 requires each regional water board's basin plan to conform with State policy for water quality control.
- 19. Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.5, the Resources Agency has approved the Regional Water Boards' basin planning process as a "certified regulatory program" that adequately satisfies the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.) requirements for preparing environmental documents (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15251(g); 23 Cal. Code Regs. § 3782). A "substitute environmental document" (SED) was prepared for this project. The SED contains the required environmental documentation under the State Water Board's CEQA regulations. (23 Cal. Code Regs. § 3777.) The SED includes the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, a staff memorandum entitled "Groundwater Quality Management Measures for Salt and Nutrients in the Raymond Basin of Los Angeles County", the CEQA environmental checklist, the comments and responses to comments, the basin plan amendment language, and this resolution. The project itself is a program of implementation of salt and nutrient management measures for the Raymond Basin. The CEQA checklist and other portions of the SED contain significant analysis and numerous findings related to impacts and mitigation measures.
- 20. A CEQA Scoping meeting was conducted on March 8, 2016, in the city of Azusa (Los Angeles County), to solicit input from the public and interested stakeholders in determining the appropriate scope and content and management options of the proposed Salt and Nutrient Management Plan. This meeting fulfilled the requirements under CEQA (Public Resources Code, Section 21083.9). A notice of the CEQA Scoping meeting was sent to interested persons on February 12, 2016.
- 21. The analysis considered the potential impacts of salt and nutrient management measures in the Raymond Basin. Foreseeable methods, including both nonstructural and structural management measures, would not cause significant impacts that cannot be mitigated through commonly used construction, design and operational practices. The SED identifies mitigation methods for impacts with potentially significant effects and finds that these methods can mitigate potentially significant impacts to levels that are less than significant. To the extent that there are significant adverse effects on the environment due to the implementation of this Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, there are feasible alternatives and/or feasible mitigation measures that would substantially lessen significant adverse impacts in most cases. The foreseeable salt and nutrient

- management methods under consideration include increased recycled water use, which is considered a significant environmental benefit.
- 22. Consistent with the Regional Water Board's substantive obligations under CEQA, the SED does not engage in speculation or conjecture, and only considers the reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts, including those relating to the methods of compliance, reasonably foreseeable feasible mitigation measures to reduce those impacts, and the reasonably foreseeable alternative means of compliance, which would avoid or reduce the identified impacts.
- 23. The SED incorporates mitigation that reduces to a level that is insignificant any adverse effects on the environment. From a program level perspective, incorporation of the mitigation measures described in the SED will reduce impacts to less than significant levels.
- 24. While the proposed Basin Plan amendment incorporates management measures into the Basin Plan that are designed to attain and/or maintain compliance with already existing water quality objectives, it does not establish or seek to modify any regulatory level, standard, or other requirement for the protection of public health or the environment. As such, it is not "a policy...that has the effect of a regulation and that is adopted in order to implement or make effective a statute"; and is therefore not subject to the requirements of Health and Safety Code section 57004 regarding external scientific peer review.
- 25. The Basin Plan amendment incorporating groundwater quality management measures for salts and nutrients in the Raymond Basin will be submitted for review and approval by the State Water Board and thence to the State Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review of the regulatory portions.
- 26. If during the State Water Board's approval process Regional Water Board staff, the State Water Board or State Water Board staff, or OAL determine that minor, non-substantive modifications to the language of the amendment are needed for clarity or consistency, the Executive Officer should make such changes consistent with the Regional Water Board's intent in adopting these groundwater quality control measures, and should inform the Board of any such changes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Regional Water Board approves and adopts the CEQA SED, which includes the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, staff memorandum entitled "Groundwater Quality Management Measures for Salt and Nutrients in the Raymond Basin of Los Angeles County", the CEQA environmental checklist, the comments and responses to comments, the basin plan amendment language, and this resolution, which was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the State Water Board's certified regulatory CEQA process (as set forth in California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3775, et seq.), Public Resources Code section 21159, and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15187, and directs the Executive Officer or designee to sign the environmental checklist.

- 2. After considering the entire record, including oral testimony at the hearing, pursuant to Water Code sections 13240 and 13242, the Regional Water Board hereby approves and adopts the groundwater quality management measures for salts and nutrients in the Raymond Basin, as developed by stakeholders, reviewed by Regional Water Board staff and set forth in the proposed Basin Plan amendment. These measures are designed to protect long-term quantity and quality of the groundwater supply, while allowing for increased use of recycled water.
- 3. The salt and nutrient management strategies developed by local water entities in the Raymond Basin are voluntary measures that are designed to maintain water quality that is protective of beneficial uses while increasing recycled water use and supports the sustainable use of groundwater. These strategies will be applied in conjunction with already existing groundwater quality protection measures in the planning area (e.g. cleanup operations).
- 4. The Regional Water Board is taking this action pursuant to the State Water Board's Recycled Water Policy (Resolution No. 2009-0011 as amended by Resolution No. 2013-0003) in which the State Water Board directs the regional water boards to amend their basin plans to incorporate salt and nutrient management measures for each basin within 12 months of receipt of a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan.
- 5. The Executive Officer is directed to forward copies of the Basin Plan amendments to the State Water Board in accordance with the requirements of California Water Code section 13245.
- 6. The Regional Water Board requests that the State Water Board approve the Basin Plan amendments in accordance with the requirements of California Water Code sections 13245 and 13246, and forward them to OAL for approval.
- 7. If during the approval process, Regional Water Board staff, the State Water Board or State Water Board staff, or OAL determines that minor, non-substantive modifications to the language of the amendments are needed for clarity or consistency, the Executive Officer may make such changes, and shall inform the Regional Water Board of any such changes.

I, Samuel Unger, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, on December 8, 2016.

Samuel Unger, P.E.
Executive Officer

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2017-0029

APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LOS ANGELES REGION, TO INCORPORATE STAKEHOLDER-DEVELOPED GROUNDWATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR SALTS AND NUTRIENTS IN THE RAYMOND GROUNDWATER BASIN OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

WHEREAS:

- 1. On December 8, 2016 the Regional Water Quality Control Board for the Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board) adopted Resolution No. R16-011. This amendment incorporates stakeholder-developed groundwater quality management measures for salts and nutrients in the Raymond Groundwater Basin into the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan). These groundwater quality management measures were developed by stakeholders as part of the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Raymond Groundwater Basin in Los Angeles County. Such plans are a requirement of the State Water Board's Recycled Water Policy and are intended to maintain the beneficial uses of groundwater while increasing recycled water use throughout the state.
- 2. The Los Angeles Water Board found that the analysis contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) "Substitute Environmental Documents" for the proposed Basin Plan amendment, including the CEQA Checklist, the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, and the Staff Memorandum for this amendment, complies with the requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) certified regulatory process, as set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 23, section 3775 et seq. The State Board had reviewed the Substitute Environmental Documents for the Basin Plan amendment and concurs with the Los Angeles Water Board's findings and determinations, including the Statement of Overriding Considerations.
- 3. This Basin Plan amendment meets the "necessity" standard of the California Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code section 11353(b), because the Recycled Water Policy requires that Regional Water Boards incorporate salt and nutrient management measures for groundwater basins into their respective basin plans within one year of the receipt of stakeholder developed salt and nutrient management plans. Also, Water Code section 13240 requires each regional water board's basin plan to conform with any State policy for water quality control.
- 4. The proposed management strategies for salt and nutrients are designed to maintain water quality that is protective of beneficial uses while increasing recycled water use. Therefore, the amendment is consistent with State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, and is also consistent with the policy of the State, established in California Water Code section 106.3 that everyone has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water.
- 5. This Basin Plan amendment does not become effective until approved by the State Water Board and the Office of Administrative Law (OAL).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

- 1. Approves the Basin Plan amendment adopted under Los Angeles Water Board Resolution No. R016-011.
- 2. Authorizes and directs the Executive Director or designee to submit the Basin Plan amendment adopted under Los Angeles Water Board Resolution No. R16-011 to OAL for approval.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on May 16, 2017.

AYE:

Chair Felicia Marcus

Board Member Tam M. Doduc Board Member Dorene D'Adamo Board Member Joaquin Esquivel

NAY:

None

ABSENT:

Vice Chair Steven Moore

ABSTAIN:

None

Jeanine Townsend Clerk to the Board

SECTION VI ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

VI.1 APPROACH TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A program-level environmental analysis of the Recommended Program Alternative described in Section V.2 was conducted and results are presented in this SED. Given that the CEQA analysis required for the SED is a program-level analysis, the environmental impacts and mitigation measures identified are broad and are not intended to represent a comprehensive or exhaustive list of impacts for potential projects implemented in the Raymond Basin. Parties responsible for implementing specific projects within the Raymond Basin will be required, as necessary, to conduct project-level environmental analyses, including CEQA analyses in order to identify specific impacts and mitigation measures.

The program-level environmental analysis presented in this SED assumes recycled water replenishment projects will be implemented; and stakeholders will design, construct, and maintain the potential implementation measures involving developing new spreading facilities for groundwater replenishment of stormwater, recycled water, and/or imported water, collectively referred to herein as "program facilities". It is also assumed the projects associated with the implementation of the program alternatives would be in compliance of all applicable laws, regulations, ordinances, and formally adopted municipal and/or agency codes, standards, and practices. The new facilities associated with the implementation measures include new pipelines and the development of new spreading facilities.

Potential reasonably foreseeable environmental impacts associated with the program facilities were evaluated with respect to the environmental resources categories listed in the CEQA checklist in Section VI.2. For each environmental resource, the potential environmental impacts were evaluated for significance with the following categories:

- Potentially Significant Impact Substantial adverse impacts on the environment are identified that cannot be feasibly mitigated or avoided.
- Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated Substantial adverse impact(s) on the environment are identified, but could be avoided or feasibly mitigated to a less than a significant level.
- Less Than Significant Impact No substantial adverse effects on the environment are identified.
- No Impact No adverse effects on the environment are expected.

Pursuant to Water Code Section 13360, the RWQCB cannot specify specific compliance and mitigation measures that responsible agencies and project proponents may choose to adopt to implement the SNMP. Project proponents are required to determine specific mitigation measures for actual

environmental impacts that are determined based on the compliance strategy that is implemented; these mitigation measures and potential impacts may vary from the reasonable foreseeable impacts and mitigation strategies presented in Section VI.2 and VI.3.

VI.2 CEQA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST – RECOMMENDED PROGRAM ALTERNATIVE

The following Environmental Checklist has been completed as per the requirements of California Code of Regulations Section 3777(a).

		ssue.	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
l)	A	AESTHETICS – Would the project:				
	a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?				
	b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				
	c)	Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?				
	d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				

AGRICULTURAL AND FOREST RESOURCES: In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California

II)

Potentially Significant **Less Than** Significant Significant with No Impact Issue **Impact** Mitigation **Impact** Incorporated Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. - Would the project: a) Converts Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared П П П \boxtimes pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use? b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson \boxtimes Act Contract? c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 1220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code П \boxtimes section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))? d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-X forest use? e) Involve other changes in the existing environment, which, due to their location or nature, could П X result in conversion of Farmland to

Less Than

non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

	Issue			Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
11.	man	QUALITY – Where availa agement or air pollution o ould the project:					
	a)	Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality pla	n?				
	b)	Violate any air quality stor contribute substantial existing or projected air violation?	ly to an				
	c)	Result in a cumulatively considerable net increas any criteria pollutant for the project region is non attainment under an appfederal or state ambient quality standard (including releasing emissions white exceed quantitative threfor ozone precursors)?	which - olicable air ng ch				
	d)	Expose sensitive recept substantial pollutant concentrations?	ors to		, <u> </u>		
	e)	Create objectionable ode affecting a substantial not people?					
V.	BIOL	OGICAL RESOURCES -	- Would ti	ne project:			
	a)	Have substantial adverse effects, either directly or through habitat modification any species identified	tions,				

Less Than

Issue	candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b)	Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
c)	Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including but not limited to marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
d)	Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?				
e)	Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?				

	Issue	TARE SERVICE AND A SERVICE AND	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	f)	Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				
V.	Cl	JLTURAL RESOURCES – Would	the project:			
	a)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource as defined in §15064.5?				
	b)	Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?				
	c)	Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?				
	d)	Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?				
VI.	GEC	DLOGY AND SOILS – Would the p	project:			
	a)	Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				

İs	ssue	i)	Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantia evidence of a known fault Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	?	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
		ii)	Strong seismic ground shaking?				
		iii)	Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				
		iv)	Landslides?				
	b)		sult in substantial soil sion or the loss of topsoil?				. 🗆
	. *	or wo res	located on a geologic unit soil that is unstable, or that uld become unstable as a sult of the project, and tentially result in on- or offerlandslide, lateral reading, subsidence, uefaction or collapse?				
d)	defi Uni	ined forr atin	ated on expansive soil, as d in Table 18-1-B of the m Building Code (1994), ng substantial risks to life on ty?	. 🗆			

ls	ssue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
e)	Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?				
VII.	GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS -	Would the pro	ject:	•	
a)	Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?				
b)	Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?				
VIII.	HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MAT	ERIALS – Wo	uld the project:		
a)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			\boxtimes	
b)	Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				
c)	Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances,				
			······································		······

or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two mile of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				\boxtimes
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?				

IX.	Issue HYDROLOGY AND WA	ATER QUALIT	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated project:	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	Violate any water quali or waste discharge req					
	b) Substantially deplete g supplies or interfere su with groundwater recha that there would be a naquifer volume or a low local groundwater table the production rate of p nearby wells would drowhich would not suppoland uses or planned u which permits have been granted)?	bstantially arge such let deficit in vering of the level (e.g., ore-existing up to a level ort existing ses for				
	c) Substantially alter the edrainage pattern of the area, including through alteration of the course or river, in a manner, we result in substantial erosiltation on- or off-site?	site or the of a stream hich would osion or				
	d) Substantially alter the edrainage pattern of the area, including through alteration of the course or river, or substantially the rate or amount of surunoff in a manner, while result in flooding on- or	site or the of a stream increase urface ch would				
······································	e) Create or contribute run which would exceed the of existing or planned s drainage systems or pr substantial additional s polluted runoff?	e capacity stormwater ovide				⊠

	ls	nord send intellepti ylkali sue lastel spile yerre sterioù geneganio	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	f)	Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?		\boxtimes		
	g)	Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				
	h)	Place within a 100-year flood hazard area, structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?				
	i)	Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				
	j)	Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				\boxtimes
Χ.		LAND USE AND PLANNING - Would	d the project:			
	a)	Physically divide an established community?				
	b)	Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				

Iş	sue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c)	Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?			⊠	
XI.	MINERAL RESOURCES - Would th	e project?			
a)	Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				
b)	Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				
XII.	NOISE – Would the project result in	· :			
a)	Exposure of persons to, or generation of, noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				
b)	Exposure of persons to, or generation of, excessive ground borne vibration or ground borne noise levels?				
c)	A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				
d)	A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in				

:: is	sue the project vicinity above existing	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
	without the project?				
e)	For a project located within an airport land use plan, or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport				
	or public use airport would the project expose people residing or working in the area to excessive noise levels?				
f)	For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				
XIII.	POPULATION AND HOUSING - Wo	ould the projec	t:		
a)	Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				
b)	Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				
c)	Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				
XIV.	PUBLIC SERVICES				
RAYM	OND BASIN MANAGEMENT BO	ARD			

ls	sue	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
a)	Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provisions of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service rations, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
	i) Fire Protection				\boxtimes
	ii) Police Protection				
	iii) Schools				
	v) Parks				\boxtimes
	vi) Other public facilities				\boxtimes
XV.	RECREATION -				
a)	Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
b)	Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities, which might				

Less Than Significant Less Than Potentially Significant with Significant No Impact Issue Impact Mitigation **Impact** Incorporated have an adverse physical effect on the environment? XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project? a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized П \boxtimes П travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit? b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel M demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways? c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a П \bowtie change in location that results in substantial safety risks? d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) \boxtimes or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

) Is	sue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
e)	Result in inadequate emergency access?				
f)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				
XVII.	UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS	S – Would the	project:		
a)	Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	. 🗖			\boxtimes
b)	Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				\boxtimes
c)	Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?				
d)	Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?				\boxtimes

	ssue		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impac
е	which serves o project that it h capacity to ser	atment provider r may serve the as adequate ve the project's and in addition to				
f)	sufficient perm	itted capacity to the project's solid				\boxtimes
g) Comply with fe local statutes a related to solid	nd regulation		· 🗆		\boxtimes
XVIII	. MANDATORY F	INDINGS OF SIGNIF	ICANCE -			
a	to degrade the environment, s the habitat of a species, cause population to d sustaining leve eliminate a plai community, recrestrict the rangendangered pla	ubstantially reduce fish or wildlife a fish or wildlife rop below self-ls, threaten to nt or animal duce the number or ge of a rare or ant or animal or tant examples of ds of California				
b)	are individually cumulatively co ("Cumulatively means that the	nsiderable?		<u> </u>		

İs	viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effect of other current projects, and the effects of probable futures projects)?		Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c)	Does the project have environmental effects, which wi cause substantial adverse effect on human beings, either direct indirectly?	cts				

VI.3 RESULTS OF ENVIRONMENT EVALUATION – RECOMMENDED PROGRAM ALTERNATIVE

VI.3.1 Aesthetics

Normal operations of program facilities are not likely to impact scenic vistas and local scenic resources because impacts to those facilities would be avoided. Landscaping and/or screening would be used to decrease visual impacts resulting from permanent program facilities. Construction activities have the potential to alter the visual environment within the vicinity of a project; however, construction would be encouraged in disturbed environments to decrease potential impacts of scenic resources and degradation to the existing visual character.

Construction of program facilities is anticipated to occur during daylight hours; therefore, additional artificial lighting would not be required during construction. In the unlikely event that emergency conditions require extended construction hours, artificial lighting could be temporarily required, resulting in potential short-term impacts that are anticipated to be considered less than significant. Any new permanent sources of lighting required for program operations would be shielded to reduce effects to neighboring development. Accordingly, adverse effects to day or nighttime views in the area are not anticipated and impacts associated with lighting and glare would be less than significant.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to aesthetics.

1a) Would the program have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

1b) Would the program substantially damage scenic resources including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

1c) Would the program substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

Id) Would the program create a new sources of substantial light of glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime view in the area?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

VI.3.2 Agriculture Resources

The San Gabriel Valley is primarily urbanized and developed, although a small percentage is agricultural land. Accordingly, it is unlikely program facilities would conflict with existing agricultural use and farmland would not be converted to non-agricultural use. Likewise, no conversion of forest land would occur.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to agriculture resources.

2a) Would the program convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?

Significance Determination: No Impact

2b) Would the program conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

Significance Determination: No Impact

2c) Would the program conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in

Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526),

or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?

Significance Determination: No Impact

2d) Would the program result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

Significance Determination: No Impact

2e) Would the program involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or

nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to nonagricultural use or conversion of forest land to

nonforest use?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.3 Air Quality

The Raymond Basin is located in Los Angeles County which lies within the South Coast Air Basin

(SCAB), which is under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

The USEPA and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) have classified air basins (or portions thereof)

as being in "attainment," "nonattainment," or "unclassified" for each criteria air pollutant, based on whether

or not air quality standards have been achieved. The Los Angeles County portion of the SCAB does not

meet federal and/or state standards for Ozone, Lead, PM10, and PM2.5 and is therefore designated a

nonattainment area for these pollutants. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is

responsible for preparing the regional transportation strategy and control measures and an Air Quality

Management Plan (AOMP), which addresses federal and state Clean Air Act requirements. SCAQMD is

responsible for administering the AQMP, which includes programs for improving air quality and thresholds

for daily operational emissions.

Project proponents are responsible for complying with all applicable air pollution requirements and

laws and must conduct an air quality environmental review to demonstrate that the project's daily

construction and operational emissions thresholds as established by SCAQMD would not be exceeded, nor

would the number or severity of existing air quality violations be increased. The construction of new

spreading facilities and recycled water replenishment projects would generate pollutant emissions during

construction with the following types of activities: grading, excavation, delivery, and hauling. The operations of the program facilities are anticipated to have less than a significant impact on air quality.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to air quality.

3a) Would the program conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

Significance Determination: No Impact

3b) Would the program violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

3c) Would the program result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

3d) Would the program expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

3e) Would the program create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

VI.3.4 Biological Resources

Los Angeles County has not designated any portion of the San Gabriel Valley overlying the Raymond Basin as a Significant Ecological Area with critical habitats. As described by the federal Endangered Species Act, critical habitat is the geographic area occupied by a threatened or endangered species essential to species conservation, and may also include areas not occupied by the species but rather are essential for species conservation. Project proponents would not to design and construct program facilities such that they do not conflict with adopted conservation plans. Some temporary disturbances, including the installation of an underground pipeline, may be compatible with conservation plans and be considered a reasonable use of the lands.

It could be necessary for project proponents to conduct biological surveys, including database searches in the California Natural Diversity Database, to determine specific species and habitats, including wetlands, that may be impacted by program facilities. The results of these studies and database searches would determine if additional mitigation measures may be necessary to reduce impacts to less than significant levels.

Project proponents would design and construct program facilities such that significant impacts to biological resources would not occur, and would not be in conflict with local polices and ordinances. By implementing construction Best Management Practices plus any project specific mitigation measures, potentially significant impacts to biologically resources would be mitigated to less than significant levels. These Best Management Practices could include, but are not limited to the following:

- Flagging and fencing the limits of construction adjacent to sensitive habitats
- Maintaining the project vicinity free of trash and debris which will not only keep the habitat clean but reduce the potential of attracting predator/scavenger species
- Locating staging and refueling areas sufficiently away from jurisdictional waters
- Employing appropriate standard spill prevention practices and clean-up materials
- Installing and maintaining sediment and erosion control measures in accordance with an approved Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)
- Maintaining effective control of fugitive dust

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to biological resources.

4a) Would the program have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

4b) Would the program have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

4c) Would the program have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through

direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

4d) Would the program interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish

or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of

native wildlife nursery sites?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

4e) Would the program conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such

as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

Significance Determination: No Impact

4f) Would the program conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural

Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.5 Cultural Resources

Los Angeles County is within the traditional territory of the Tongva people (also known as

Gabrielino or Gabrieleno, after Mission San Gabriel) until the Spanish invasion in the sixteenth century,

when they were displaced and missionized. The earliest evidence of Tongva occupation, derived from

linguistic, archaeological, and osteological evidence, suggests the area was inhabited as early as the ninth

century Before Common Era (B.C.E.) The Tongva people inhabited not only Los Angeles County but also

the majority of modern day Orange County and the islands of Santa Catalina, Santa Barbara, San Nicholas,

and San Clemente. At the time of Spanish explorer Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo's entrance into Tongva

territory, it is estimated that their population reached nearly 5,000 people. They were semi-nomadic and

subsisted on a hunter-gatherer lifestyle in the rich landscape abundant in coastal resources, as well as acorns,

pine nuts, and small game.

Construction activities could result in impacts to cultural resources, including those from the

Tongva people. Project proponents could be required to prepare a cultural resources study prior to project

implementation to determine any potentially significant impacts to historical sites, or sites of paleontological significance. A cultural resources study may include, as specifically necessary, obtaining a record search from the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC), contacting the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a Sacred Lands File search and a list of Native American contacts, outreach to the Native American contacts listed by the NAHC, reviewing previous reports for the project vicinity, and undertaking a field survey. Project proponents would implement appropriate mitigation measures, as determined by the cultural resources study.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to cultural resources.

5a) Would the program cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

5b) Would the program cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

5c) Would the program directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

5d) Would the program disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

VI.3.6 Geology and Soils

The water bearing portions of the Raymond Basin consist of alluvial fill having characteristics of the coarse deposits found in the small basins near the mountain margins (see Section III.5.2). Prior to construction of new program facilities, it may be necessary for project proponents to complete a geotechnical investigation and evaluation to identify potential seismic-induced hazards and geologic hazards. Specific mitigation measures would be developed from the results of the geotechnical investigation. Program facilities would be designed in accordance with the potential seismicity of the region

in order to avoid potential effects resulting from ground shaking due to earthquakes; therefore, potential impacts associated with strong seismic ground shaking would be mitigated to less than significant levels. Likewise, geologic hazards including potential for landslides and liquefaction would be considered in the design of program facilities to reduce potential impacts to less than significant levels.

Construction of the program facilities, including pipelines, would result in earthwork excavation, removal of unsuitable soil materials, and placement of compacted fill (either local or imported). These activities would result in temporary impacts to the local topography and soils. All construction activities, including grading work, would be performed in accordance with approved construction standards and practices. Impacts would be minimized by proper siting, design, and construction practices.

As required under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), administered by the RWQCB, a SWPPP would be created for proposed projects. The plan would address erosion control measures that would be implemented to avoid erosion impacts to exposed soil associated with construction activities. The SWPPP would include a program of Best Management Practices to provide erosion and sediment control and reduce potential impacts to water quality that may result from construction activities, including but not limited to, the following:

- Protection of storm drain inlets located within the Project alignment and in downstream off-site areas with the use of BMPs acceptable to the Upper District, local jurisdictions, and the RWQCB.
- Sweeping of dirt and debris from paved streets in the construction zone on a regular basis, particularly before predicted rainfall events.
- Proper storage, use, and disposal of construction materials.
- Removal of sediment from surface runoff before it leaves the Project site through use of silt fences or other similar devices around the laydown area perimeters.
- Protection of tracking soil off site through use of a gravel strip or wash facilities at exits from Project laydown areas.
- Protection or stabilization of stockpiled soils.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to geology and soils.

6a) Would the program expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:

i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake

Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence

of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.

b) Strong seismic ground shaking?

c) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

d) Landslides?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

6b) Would the program result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

6c) Would the program be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable

as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence,

liquefaction or collapse?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

6d) Would the program be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building

Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

6e) Would the program have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative

waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.7 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) maintains a statewide inventory for greenhouse gas

(GHG) emissions that includes estimates for carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄), nitrous oxide (N₂O₁),

sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), hydrofluorocarbons, and perfluorocarbons. Projects would have the potential of

creating GHG emissions; therefore, project construction and operational GHG emissions estimates would

be estimated prior to construction of program facilities to determine if emissions will be less than SCAQMD

adopted significance thresholds for individual projects.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to GHG

emissions.

7a) Would the program generate Greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a

significant impact on the environment?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

7b) Would the program conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of

reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

VI.3.8 Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Potential hazards associated with the implementation of program facilities during construction

involves the use of hazardous substances used to operated construction equipment including fuel, lubricants,

adhesives, solvents, and asphalt. These hazardous materials related to construction could potentially result

in environmental impacts through accidental discharge. Project proponents and contractors would ensure

the transport, use, and disposal of hazardous materials would be conducted in accordance with applicable

federal and State laws.

Construction of program facilities would require conformance with the NPDES Construction

General Permit, which would include a SWPPP and appropriate Best Management Practices to mitigate

potential impacts, as discussed in Section VI.3.6. These Best Management Practices would include standard

industry measures and guidelines contained in the NPDES Construction General Permit text.

Implementation of these Best Management Practices would reduce potential impacts associated with

construction related hazardous material to less than significant.

To assess the potential to encounter hazardous waste or contaminated soil during construction of

program facilities, project proponents would need to consult the SWRCB's GeoTracker Database and the

California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) EnviroStor database, which provide

information on hazardous materials sites, including information on completed inspections,

enforcement/corrective actions, and cleanup status. If construction of program facilities would occur on or

near a hazardous materials site, project proponents should make contractors and workers aware of the

presence or likely presence of hazardous materials. As applicable, the contractor should hold all necessary

licenses and certifications to perform the construction operations that may occur in the areas impacted with hazardous materials. During excavation and construction activities, soil would be monitored for the presence of discolored or odorous soil. In the event that contaminated soil is contaminated, the following additional mitigation measures would be implemented to ensure that impacts would be less than significant:

- The site shall be evaluated by a qualified hazardous materials professional and handled in accordance with applicable environmental laws and regulations.
- Impacted soil shall be exported to an approved off-site disposal or recycling facility, unless evaluated and approved by a local regulatory agency for use as backfill.
- Appropriate dewatering methods shall be implemented, which may require a groundwater treatment system if in areas with hazardous materials.

The use of recycled water for groundwater recharge is regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and the RWQCB. Several safety measures are required in order to protect public drinking sources from receiving high concentrations of recycled water. In addition, all recycled water pipelines would be constructed according to regulatory requirements to prevent potential cross contamination with potable water supplies and pipelines, including proper vertical and horizontal separation with potable water pipelines. Potential impacts to water quality are discussed further in Section IV.3.9.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to hazards and hazardous materials.

8a) Would the program create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

8b) Would the program create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

8c) Would the program emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

8d) Would the program be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled

pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the

public or the environment?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

8e) Would the program for a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not

been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety

hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

Significance Determination: No Impact

8f) Would the program for a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a

safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

Significance Determination: No Impact

8g) Would the program impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency

response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

Significance Determination: No Impact

8h) Would the program expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving

wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are

intermixed with wildlands?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.9 Hydrology and Water Quality

The entire Raymond Basin area lies within the watershed of the Los Angeles River, and surface

runoff from the San Gabriel Mountains enters the area through numerous streams, principally the Arroyo

Seco, Eaton Wash, and Santa Anita Wash. Groundwater is a significant source of potable water supply in

the Raymond Basin.

The RWQCB and the DDW regulate groundwater replenishment projects using recycled water

under numerous state laws and regulations, including the Water Quality Control Plan, Los Angeles Region

(Basin Plan) and SWRCB Policies. The Basin Plan has specified that one of the beneficial uses of the Main

Basin underlying the SFSG is for municipal and domestic water supply (MUN). Consequently, the RWQCB

has established narrative and numeric Water Quality Objectives that must be attained or maintained to protect these beneficial uses. Based on the MUN beneficial use designation, the Basin Plan includes groundwater objectives based on the State Primary and Secondary maximum contaminant levels (MCLs), a numeric objective for coliform organisms, a narrative objective to prevent taste and odor issues, and basin-specific mineral objectives. Recycled water used for groundwater replenishment has the potential to impact water quality in the Raymond Basin.

The quality of the recycled water to be utilized for the Pasadena Water and Power project and the hypothetical replenishment projects exceed the mineral RWQCB Water Quality Objective for total dissolved solids (TDS) (450 mg/L), sulfate (100 mg/L), and chloride (100 mg/L) at 720 mg/L, 210 mg/L, and 163 mg/L, respectively. The nitrate concentration is 26 mg/L, which is below the RWQCB Water Quality Objectives of 45 mg/L. Accordingly, implementation of the recycled water projects may result in a net increase in the overall Raymond Basin constituent concentrations for TDS, chloride, and sulfate.

The Recycled Water Policy sets an <u>interim</u> goal that no single project is to use more than 10 percent of the available assimilative capacity, or combination of projects to use more than 20 percent of the available assimilative capacity. Consequently, as part of the SNMP, the antidegradation analysis calculated the collective amount of water from potential future projects that could be replenished in the Raymond Basin without exceeding the very conservative value of 10 percent of the available assimilative capacity.

Using the assigned water quality for new water used for replenishment, the antidegradation analysis demonstrates that TDS will be the limiting mineral constituent controlling the use of new water for recharging the aquifer in the Monk Hill subarea, as shown in Table III.18. Assuming 190,400 ac-ft of groundwater in storage and 13,300 ac-ft of groundwater recharge and removal, 10 percent of the TDS assimilative capacity of the groundwater in the subarea will be utilized after 225 ac-ft of recharge with new water annually. The utilization of the assimilative capacity for nitrate chloride, and sulfate is less than TDS, and therefore, these constituents are not limiting. If water of a different quality is used, TDS will remain the limiting factor until the ratio of TDS to sulfate (TDS concentration divided by sulfate concentration) is less than 3.0, at which time sulfate will become the limiting factor.

Using the assigned water quality for new water used for replenishment, the antidegradation analysis demonstrates that sulfate will be the limiting mineral constituent controlling the use of new water for recharging the aquifer in the Pasadena subarea, as shown in Table III.19. Assuming 536,800 ac-ft of groundwater in storage and 19,700 ac-ft of groundwater recharge and removal, 10 percent of the sulfate assimilative capacity of the groundwater in the subarea will be utilized after 405 ac-ft of recharge with new water annually. The utilization of the assimilative capacity for nitrate chloride, and TDS is less than sulfate,

and therefore, these constituents are not limiting. If water of a different quality is used, sulfate will remain the limiting factor until the ratio of TDS to sulfate (TDS concentration divided by sulfate concentration) is greater than 4.0, at which time TDS will become the limiting factor.

Using the assigned water quality for new water used for replenishment, the antidegradation analysis demonstrates that sulfate will be the limiting mineral constituent controlling the use of new water for recharging the aquifer in the Santa Anita subarea, as shown in Table III.20. Assuming 72,800 ac-ft of groundwater in storage and 6,200 ac-ft of groundwater recharge and removal, 10 percent of the sulfate assimilative capacity of the groundwater in the subarea will be utilized after 245 ac-ft of recharge with new water annually. The utilization of the assimilative capacity for nitrate chloride, and TDS is less than sulfate, and therefore, these constituents are not limiting. If water of a different quality is used, sulfate will remain the limiting factor until the ratio of TDS to sulfate (TDS concentration divided by sulfate concentration) is less than 2.7, at which time sulfate will become the limiting factor.

The antidegradation analysis is extremely conservative, as it assumes no additional constituent removal beyond historical amounts. Additionally, the analysis only considers direct spreading where 100 percent of the water is assumed to reach the groundwater. A recycled water project utilizing direct use, for example the Pasadena Water and Power project, would only result in a fraction of the recharge water reaching the groundwater; therefore, a significantly greater volume of replenishment water could be used before utilizing 10 percent of the assimilative capacity. Recycled water quality in the Raymond Basin could potentially have a higher water quality than the assigned quality used in the antidegradation analysis, if, for example, a higher level a treatment is utilized, which would allow for a greater volume of water to be used for replenishment before exceeding 10 percent of the assimilative capacity. In addition, local stormwater is of generally good quality; therefore, an increased use of local stormwater for groundwater replenishment could improve quality in the Raymond Basin.

Maintaining compliance with the applicable DDW Groundwater Replenishment Regulations and the SWRCB Recycled Water Policy will help maintain the quality of the Raymond Basin. According to the Groundwater Replenishment Regulations, the following regulatory requirements would be required to protect potable production wells:

- A potable well control zone will be established to allow for sufficient underground recycled water
 retention time for pathogen reduction, emergency response time, and adequate mixing with diluent
 water to ensure the percentage of recycled water does not exceed the maximum allowed.
 Watermaster will not approve applications for new wells to be drilled within this potable well
 control zone.
- Potable wells will not be located within 1,000 feet of the SFSG.

- A monitoring program will be established.
- Employees will receive proper training.

There may be minor localized modifications to existing drainage during trench work for the pipeline, which would be considered less than significant.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to hydrology and water quality.

9a) Would the program violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

9b) Would the program substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

Significance Determination: No Impact

9c) Would the program substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

9d) Would the program substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

9e) Would the program create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

Significance Determination: No Impact

9f) Would the program otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

9g) Would the program place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood

Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

Significance Determination: No Impact

9h) Would the program place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or reirect

flood flows?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

9i) Would the program expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving

flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

Significance Determination: No Impact

9i) Would the program inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.10 Land Use/Planning

Construction of program facilities would not physically divide an established community. During

construction, community access may be temporarily and minimally restricted (see Section VI.3.16);

however, once construction is completed, program facilities would not interfere with community access.

Program facilities would be designed such that they were compatible with General Plans and planned land

use for Los Angeles County and local impacted cities; therefore, impacts to land use and planning would

be considered less than significant.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to land

use and planning.

10a) Would the program physically divide an established community?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

10b) Would the program conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with

jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal

program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

10c) Would the program conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community

conservation plan?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

VI.3.11 Mineral Resources

Mineral resources, including mineral and aggregate deposits, are present in the washes along the

southerly foothills of Los Angeles County. The California Geological Survey has classified Los Angeles

County into Mineral Resource Zones (MRZs). Portions of the San Gabriel Valley overlying the Raymond

Basin are designated as MRZ-2, indicating existence of mineral deposits that meet certain criteria for value

and marketability; however, the California Geological Survey has not identified any active aggregates

mines in the region so it is unlikely program facilities would impact mineral resources. If pits previously

used for the mining of mineral resources are converted to spreading facilities, project proponents would

need to evaluate specific potential impacts to mineral resources.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to

mineral resources.

11a) Would the program result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of

value to the region and the residents of the state?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

11b) Would the program result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery

site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

VI.3.12 Noise

During construction and operation of program facilities, noise environments along pipeline

corridors and near spreading facilities may potentially be impacted. The program facilities are not expected

to result in a significant impact related to ambient noise levels. Sensitive noise receptors that would need

to be evaluated for project-specific noise impacts include local schools and hospitals. Implementation of

the following mitigation measures will reduce noise impacts to less than significant:

Construction noise must comply with jurisdictional noise ordinances, and as such will be conducted

between 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM, Monday through Friday with the exception of holidays.

All equipment will have proper mufflers equal or superior to noise attenuation provided by the

manufacturer of the equipment.

If sensitive species exist near the program facilities, additional mitigation measures may be required

to reduce construction related noise levels to acceptable measures.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to

noise.

12a) Would the program exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards

established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

12b) Would the program exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or

groundborne noise levels?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

12c) Would the program a substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity

above levels existing without the project?

Significance Determination: No Impact

12d) Would the program a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project

vicinity above levels existing without the project?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

12e) Would the program for a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has

not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people

residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

Significance Determination: No Impact

12f) Would the program for a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose

people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.13 Population and Housing

No proposed program facilities involve new housing or business developments; therefore, program

facilities would not directly induce population growth. No housing or people would be displaced resulting

from the program facilities.

Indirect population growth would not likely result from the construction of program facilities

because new services and infrastructure would not be extended to new areas such that would allow for the

development of land. However, there is a potential for indirect population growth to occur resulting from

increased economic opportunities, including job opportunities created by the program. By increasing the

reliability of local water supplies, a natural obstacle to population growth would be reduced. These potential

population increases are anticipated to be able to be absorbed by the community.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to

population and housing.

13a) Would the program induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by

proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other

infrastructure)?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

13b) Would the program displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction

of replacement housing elsewhere?

Significance Determination: No Impact

13c) Would the program displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of

replacement housing elsewhere?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.14 **Public Services**

Implementation of program facilities would not result in the need for new or physically altered

governmental facilities including fire protection, police protection, schools, parks, or other public facilities.

There is a low probability that police of fire protection may be required during construction or operation of

program facilities; however, these impacts would be considered less than significant and would not impact

response times. As discussed in Section VI.3.16, emergency vehicle access will be maintained at all times.

As discussed in Section VI.3.13, program facilities do not include new housing or development projects

that would increase the demand for schools, parks, or other parks of public facilities; therefore, no impact

would occur.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to

public services.

14a) Would the program result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of

new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental

facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain

acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire Protection?

Police Protection?

Schools?

Parks?

Other public facilities?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.15 Recreation

Program facilities would not cause an increase in the use of existing neighborhood and regional

parks or other recreational facilities; thus, no physical deterioration would occur resulting from program

facilities. Construction of program facilities may result in minor, temporary impacts to recreationists

resulting from noise, dust, and road closures for vehicles, bicyclists, and/or pedestrians. Once operational,

program facilities would not result in changes to the population requiring additional new or expanded

recreational opportunities.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to

recreation.

15a) Would the program increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?

Significance Determination: No Impact

16a) Does the program include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of

recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.16 Transportation/Traffic

During operations of the program facilities, increased traffic would result from infrequent

maintenance, inspection, or emergency repair activities, which would have sparse and minimal impacts to

transportation and traffic. Program facilities would not impact existing performance of the highway and

roadway system governed by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority's 2010 Congestion

Management Plan. Construction of program facilities could occur in roads and paths which would result in

temporary impacts to transportation and traffic that would require mitigation. Traffic congestion during

construction would likely increase and could impact emergency access unless mitigation is incorporated.

Routine mitigation measures are required to reduce traffic impacts during construction so as not to conflict

with any applicable plan, ordinance, policy, or program. These measures include the following:

Access to properties along the construction work zone will be maintained.

• Emergency vehicle access will be maintained at all times.

• All cuts to roadways will be covered with "plates", when appropriate, during non-working hours.

Appropriate signage will be posted informing the public of construction activities, work zone areas,

road closures, and detour routes, as applicable.

A traffic management plan will be developed by the contractor and approved by the appropriate

jurisdiction prior to commencing construction.

Haul trucks will be directed via the shortest routes on arterial streets, avoiding impacts to residential

streets.

Program facilities would not include aviation components or structures where height would be an

aviation concern; therefore, air traffic patterns would not be impacted. Program facilities would not include

design features that would affect traffic safety, such as sharp curves or dangerous intersections, nor would

it cause incompatible uses, such as farm equipment, on local roads. The temporary increase in traffic due

to construction is a compatible use that would not pose a hazard to traffic on the affected roads.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to transportation and traffic.

16a) Would the program conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including, but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

16b) Would the program conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

16c) Would the program result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

Significance Determination: No Impact

16d) Would the program substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

Significance Determination: No Impact

16e) Would the program result in inadequate emergency access?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

16f) Would the program conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

VI.3.17 Utilities and Service Systems

Program facilities would not require the construction or expansion of wastewater facilities or exceed applicable wastewater treatment requirements because no facility will be constructed that would

generate sewage. Program facilities could require the construction or expansion of new storm water

drainage facilities in order to divert stormwater to spreading facilities for groundwater replenishment which

would require mitigation measures to implemented on an individual project basis to reduce environmental

impacts.

No new potable water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities would

be required. The operation of program facilities would result in a beneficial impact to regional water supply

by utilizing and optimizing recycled water and stormwater for groundwater replenishment which would

otherwise be wasted, resulting in a decreased need for imported water.

Construction of the program facilities is not anticipated to generate substantial volumes of solid

waste, as excavated materials would be reused as backfill, where possible. Solid waste debris would be

disposed of at a permitted landfill within the capacity of the landfills serving the region. Operations of the

program facilities would not generate solid waste or affect landfill capacity, and would comply with federal,

state, and local statues and regulations related to solid waste; therefore, not impact would occur.

The following provides the significance determination of specific CEQA questions relating to

utilities and service systems.

17a) Would the program exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water

Quality Control Board?

Significance Determination: No Impact

17b) Would the program require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment

facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental

effects?

Significance Determination: No Impact

17c) Would the program require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or

expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

17d) Would the program have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing

entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

Significance Determination: No Impact

17e) Would the program result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or

may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to

the provider's existing commitments?

Significance Determination: No Impact

17f) Would the program be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the

project's solid waste disposal needs?

Significance Determination: No Impact

17g) Would the program comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid

waste?

Significance Determination: No Impact

VI.3.18 Mandatory Findings of Significance

The implementation of program facilities would potentially result in significant environmental

impacts, unless mitigation is incorporated. The following provides the significance determination of the

mandatory findings of significance.

18a) Would the program have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce

the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining

levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare

or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history

or prehistory?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated

Implementation of the program facilities would potentially have adverse impacts on biological

resources. In addition, the Recommended Program Alternative may potentially result in impacts to

unknown buried cultural resources and/or paleontological resources. The potential to degrade

environmental quality would be reduced to below a level of significance through implementation of

mitigation measures specified in Sections VI.3.4 and VI.3.5, plus any project specific mitigation measures.

See Sections VI.3.4 and VI.3.5 for further discussion of these issue areas.

18b) Would the program have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

Cumulative impacts are those impacts which, in conjunction with impacts due to other projects in the vicinity or with similar characteristics, would potentially result in adverse effects on the environment greater in significance than just impacts from a single project alone. Therefore, a cumulative impact may be considered less than significant when evaluated in isolation, but could become significant when evaluated along with other projects.

Implementation of the program facilities would not result in impacts that are individually insignificant, but cumulatively considerable and will not cause significant degradation to the environment. The implementation of program facilities would result in greater management of salt and nutrient loadings while still allowing for the increased responsible use of recycled water and local water.

18c) Would the program have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

Significance Determination: Less Than Significant Impact

Implementation of program facilities would not result in environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Adherence to regulatory codes, ordinances, regulations, standards, and guidelines, in conjunction with program and project-specific mitigation measures including, but not limited to, those related to air, hazardous materials, water quality, noise, and transportation (see Sections VI.3.3, VI.3.8, VI.3.9, VI.3.12, and IV.3.16) would ensure that construction and operation of the program facilities would not result in substantial adverse direct or indirect effects on human beings. In addition, all resource topics associated with the program have been analyzed in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines and found to pose no impact, less than significant impact, or less than significant impact with mitigation. Hence, further environmental analysis is not required.

VI.3.19 Other Considerations

Energy Requirements

Implementation of program facilities to increase the use of recycled water and local stormwater will likely require significantly less energy per foot for conveyance within the Raymond Basin compared to importing water from the State Water Project for direct use in the Monk Hill and Pasadena subareas; thus, the Recommended Program Alternative results in a beneficial impact with regards to energy consumption and efficiency.

Irreversible and Unavoidable Impacts

CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Section 15126.2(c)) requires identification of potential significant, irreversible environmental changes that could result from the implementation of the Recommended Program Alternative. Examples of such irreversible changes include the commitment of nonrenewable resources to uses that future generations will not be able to reverse, irreversible damage that may result from accidents associated with a project, or irretrievable commitment of resources. Implementation of the Recommended Program Alterative and construction of program facilities would irreversibly require construction materials and non-renewable energy resources by way of materials, labor, and energy. These materials and resources could include, but are not limited to, lumber and other forest products; sand and gravel; asphalt; petrochemical construction materials; steel; copper; lead and other metals, water; etc. Although the Recommended Program Alternative would require materials, labor, and energy, these non-renewable resources do not represent a substantial irreversible commitment of resources.

In accordance with the Policy and the Governor's recent drought proclamations, implementation the Recommended Program Alternative is both necessary and beneficial because it reduces reliance on groundwater supplies and imported water supplies by increasing the use of recycled water and other local water sources. In addition, recycled water is a renewable resource, and therefore, the increased use resulting from the Recommended Program Alternative would not result in an irretrievable commitment of nonrenewable resources.

VI.3.20 Environmental Analysis of Other Alternatives

Alternative 1: No Project

As discussed in Section V.1.1, this Program Alternative does not include adoption of a SNMP and consequently would be inconsistent with of the mandates of the State Recycled Water Policy which requires

that a SNMP be adopted; therefore, the implementation of Alternative 1 is infeasible and not recommended. Alternative 1 was included in this analysis as a means to compare the impacts of implementing the Recommended Program Alternative with the current status quo.

Because Alternative 1 does not involve the implementation of new recycled water projects or new spreading facilities for stormwater and/or imported water, Alternative 1 would have no impact on the following resource categories:

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation and Traffic
- Utilities and Service Systems

Alternative 1 would not provide the benefit of having more reliable and secure local water sources that results from increased use of recycled water and stormwater. Without having a framework for long-term management of salts and nutrients provided in the SNMP, individual projects would have a greater potential of causing cumulative adverse effects on the Raymond Basin.

Alternative 2: Planned Recycled Water Projects

Alternative 2 is the program alternative which assumes the RWQCB will adopt the SNMP for the Raymond Basin and the planned recycled water project will be implemented. All of the potential impacts of Alternative 2 have been evaluated within the evaluation of the Recommended Program Alternative. Alternative 2 only includes the implementation of the Pasadena Water and Power project and does not

include implementation of expanded spreading facilities and potential recycled water projects. Because both Alternative 2 and the Recommended Program Alternative involve installing pipeline, several of the potential environmental impacts are the same. The additional impacts associated with implementing multiple recycled water, stormwater, and imported water projects, as proposed in the Recommended Program Alternative have been evaluated and determined to not have a significant impact on the environment.

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SECTION VII FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION

The RWQCB, with assistance from RBMB representing Raymond Basin stakeholders, has balanced the economic, legal, social, technological, and other benefits of the Recommended Program Alternative of the Raymond Basin SNMP against the potential, unavoidable, and inherent environmental risks identified in this SED. The program-level environmental analysis included in this SED identifies reasonably foreseeable impacts associated with the implementation of the Recommended Program Alternative and provides mitigation measures that can be applied to individual projects implemented as part of the program in order to reduce impacts below significance thresholds. The recommended Program Alternative allows for flexibility for stakeholders and project proponents to determine the most feasible and environmentally safe manner of implementation. The RWQCB has determined that the identified potential environmental impacts associated with each resource category can be mitigated such that the impacts can be reduced to less than significant thresholds.

Potential impacts must also be mitigated at the project level because particular designs and sites are not specified in the SNMP. At the program level, a more specific conclusion would be speculative. Project proponents would be responsible for implementing the mitigation measures identified in this SED conjointly, as applicable, with project-specific mitigation measures identified in project level CEQA analyses and related environmental studies conducted.

Per Water Code Section 13360, the RWQCB does not have legal authority to specify the manner of compliance with its orders or regulations, and therefore, cannot dictate that an appropriate location be selected for any particular project, that it be designed consistent with standard industry practices, or that routine and ordinary mitigation measures be employed. Project proponents have the jurisdiction and authority to determine these measures and should employ alternatives and mitigation measures to reduce any impacts to the extent feasible (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15091(a)(2)).

The implementation of the SNMP will satisfy the requirements of the Policy by providing a framework for the long-term management of salts and nutrients in the Raymond Basin, while encouraging and allowing for increased use of recycled water areas where salt and nutrient concentrations would exceed the water quality objectives for groundwater established in the Basin Plan. The adoption of this SED will fulfill the CEQA requirements for the implementation of the SNMP.

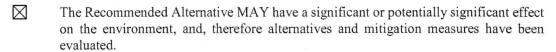
The SNMP is both necessary and beneficial. The implementation of the SNMP, and management strategies contained therein, will fulfill the requirements of the Policy and provide the framework for the environmentally safe long-term management of salts and nutrients in the Raymond Basin. To the extent

that the alternatives, mitigation measures, or both, that are examined in this analysis are not deemed feasible by the stakeholders and local agencies, the necessity of complying with the Policy and implementing the required SNMP remains.

DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation for the Raymond Basin Salt and Nutrient Management Plan, which collectively provide the required information:

The	Recomme	ended	Alternativ	e COULD	NOT	have	a	significant	effect	on	the
enviro	onment, a	ind, the	erefore no a	alternatives	or miti	gation	me	easures are p	ropose	d.	



Signature

Date

RENEE PURDY

Printed Name

Agency

Note: Authority Cited Sections 21083 and 21087, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 21080(c), 21080.1, 21082.1, 21083.3, 21093, 21094, 21151, Public Resources Code.